[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II

ACT ASSENTED TO BY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce that the Jaina Succession Bill which was passed by the Council, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on the 14th of February 1929." ('Hear, hear,' from the Swarajists benches.)

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1929-30.

DEMAND XXII—PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS—*cont.*

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, if I speak on the motion of Mr. Venkatapathi Raju, Sir, it is for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the Government the steps which I beg of them to take with regard to the improvement of village sanitation. I do not think that there can be any two opinions in the matter that our villages are in a very backward condition educationally and from the point of view of sanitation and also from the point of view of facilities for communication, and that a serious attempt should be made and immediately made also. This is the most propitious time for it, Sir, because after the Imperial contributions have been relieved, we have to-day according to the Budget a surplus of 4 crores of rupees which the Government propose to utilize, a part of it at least, for paying off debts. They have provided for a surplus of about Rupees two crores and thirty-three lakhs be utilized as need arises. Now, I ask, Sir, does not this surplus which is an excess of our normal requirements, come out of the taxes taken from the people and mostly from agriculturists and therefore, whether it would not be right if that money or at least a large portion of it were to be ear-marked for the improvement of the villages? The need of the rural communities should be a first charge on this amount. The Royal Commission on Agriculture, who devoted the whole of their attention practically to the question of the improvement of agriculture, thought that much of this depended on the way in which the improvement of village life is brought about. One point, Sir, which they put very tersely in their report is in the following words :—

> 'Our object has been to suggest ways and means of assisting the advance of rural communities towards a fuller life.'

" And in considering that they give prime importance to the improvement of village roads and the connexion of villages with all main roads. They also consider that the local bodies' first obligation is to maintain and improve such village roads. Sir, I think, this should be the aim of those in charge of the administration of the province and they should ultimately see to it that every village has got a road and a good road too so that the villagers can easily transport their produce. These roads will facilitate the introduction of education in out-of-the-way places and will also contribute to the efficiency of the services both sanitary and medical, because the doctors can easily visit villages and the villagers also can easily go to the doctor.

" Again the Commission on Agriculture lay stress on the necessity for these communications and this is what they say :

> 'The provision of excellent main roads adequate in all respects for every form of transport is of little benefit to the cultivator if his access to them is hampered by the condition of the road which connects his village with them. What matters most to him is the state of the road between his village and the main road and his market.'

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [22nd March 1929

"Then again they observe :—

'As a factor in rural progress we consider improvement of communication as of the utmost importance. Improvement in communication and the spread of literacy are intimately related. Isolation perpetrates ignorance. Good roads promote the free exchange of ideas no less than that of merchandise.'

"On another page they write—

'We have referred on the chapter on communications and marketing to the value of good roads. They are necessary not only for the transport of agricultural produce but also for the promotion of rural welfare generally. Upon the linking of villages in this way with the smaller town ultimately depend in large measure the possibility of bringing medical assistance to villagers and providing labour for any large extension of small industries. It must also profoundly affect education, both male and female, and lead to an extension of post and telegraph facilities.'

"No doubt I am talking of rural roads, that is by the way, because in any well ordered scheme of improvement of village sanitation, the efficiency of the services would depend upon the facilities for communication to these villages, so that the benefit of such survices may not be confined merely to a few urban centres which could be reached by road but also every village should be capable of being reached.

"Again, if we were to look into the statistics of local boards, we find that our local bodies are financially unable to do anything. We find that the land cess under the Local Boards Act and other taxes that are permissible under the Act are being levied to their maximum capacity and their financial position is as follows :—Under Ordinary Receipts we find that district boards and taluk boards have Rs. 201·68 lakhs and under charges they have to spend Rs. 195·26 lakhs with the result that the surplus left is only Rs. 6·42 lakhs and that is hardly sufficient for the opening balance of 24 district boards and 129 taluk boards. So, the income of the local bodies under the present circumstances is hardly sufficient to meet the normal charges. So, any improvement in regard to village roads or sanitation cannot be expected to be taken up by local bodies. The State has therefore to come forward with a liberal grant to their help.

"Turning to the unions, we find their position is no better. We had in 1926-27, 479 unions. Their total receipts for that year come to Rs. 22·13 lakhs and the charges come to Rs. 21·59 lakhs and the surplus is Rs. 78 lakhs or an average of Rs. 160 for each union, from which they are expected to carry on their sanitary requirements, such as the construction of drains or laying out new roads, and see to the health of the town. Sir, we have reached a stage when it would be absolutely impossible to disregard these things, seeing that the local bodies can do nothing more than what they have done. Now, it is the duty of the State who tax the people to see that they return a decent part of it to the people for improvement of rural conditions and sanitation.

"So far as the present budget is concerned, the position stands thus. We have Rs. 45·9 lakhs provided under Public Health, of which 11 lakhs go to the Public Health establishment, Rs. 3·22 for Bacteriological Laboratories, 2 lakhs for combating epidemic diseases and what is left is about 28 lakhs. Of this 28 lakhs, we find 4 lakhs provided for Temperance propaganda. Of the remaining 24 lakhs provided for water-supply and drainage—

RS.

8,00,000 is granted to the Madras Corporation.
10,52,200 for Mufassal water-supply.
5,50,000 for Rural water-supply and drainage.

22nd March 1929] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

Out of this Rs. 5½ lakhs the local bodies have to provide wells in the villages and there is the complaint that the local bodies do not spend the amount allotted to them. So, the position is that out of 45 lakhs provided in the budget only 5·50 lakhs is for rural water-supply and this amount has to be spent within the year. So, there is no provision whatever for improvement of village sanitation.

11-15 a.m.

"Sir, if a board adopts a regular programme for 5 years to spend a lakh every year, where is the guarantee that the lakh grant necessary will be continued all the 5 years? I wish to tell the Minister, if he cares to know it, and the House the position with regard to my district board. We had a regular scheme for 5 lakhs in the first year: the Government gave us only Rs. 29,000 when we had spent Rs. 63,000; in the second year we spent Rs. 72,000 and the Government gave us only Rs. 5,000. In the third year we spent 1 lakh and they gave us Rs. 45,000. In the current year we have spent Rs. 90,000, but the Government at first gave only Rs. 12,500. I must thank the Minister and the Secretary for their being able to give us a further sum of Rs. 20,000 in this month. If only the local bodies are assured of the continuity of grants for a number of years for which the local bodies have schemes they will be able to do any useful work. The Government should say what amount of grant they are going to pay to each district and should not be content by saying that they have allotted 7 lakhs for a year. If lapses occur, it is not because the taluk boards are not doing their duties properly, but on account of the defects in the system of making these grants. Many of the taluk boards are asked to contribute half of the expenditure. We find from their budgets that they are not able to find that sum. In this connexion I wish to mention what I find is stated in the proceedings of the Finance Committee. I find it stated in the proceedings that there has been no complaint from district boards or local boards that the half grant which they are asked to find for village roads is something which they could not provide. I do not know in what manner the Government want us to complain to them. On the floor of this House we have made that complaint on many occasions. When the late Raja of Panagal was Minister this complaint was made and at that time there were no funds and it was with great difficulty that he was able to persuade the Government to provide something. We now ask why the Government continues to insist upon the half contribution when they could themselves find the whole amount. It is absolutely necessary that the whole thing should be looked into and sufficient funds set apart for village amenities. Not only that. These funds should not be allowed to lapse year after year. A proper scheme must be devised by which, irrespective of the variations in provincial revenues, the expenditure on village roads and sanitation would go on as per scheme.

"It has been found in another place that this is the only proper and possible way of going on with schemes as per programme. We find that the Road Development Committee, presided over by Mr. Jayakar, has come to the same conclusion. With regard to the improvement of roads they recommend the constitution of a separate Standing Committee for Roads of the Assembly. They also suggest that a separate fund should be set apart for road development called the Road Development fund. They have also provided other safeguards from the financial point of view. I am no doubt aware that the Finance Member will say that the money is not to be given unless they guarantee that it is not going to be wasted. We are not going to waste

Government funds at all. We are anxious that substantial safeguards should be provided for the continued grant of funds for the improvement of village roads.

"I would now read what Mr. Jayakar and his Committee have said in regard to the development of communications and what they considered necessary having regard to the budget system of the Government of India. This is what they say. I request the House to substitute 'Sanitation' for the word 'road' wherever it occurs in this passage:

'A Road programme should be planned for a period of years and grants could not be utilised effectively unless some continuity is assured. We suggest therefore that a convention should be established whereby the Legislative Assembly would annually vote the proceeds of the additional duty on motor spirit. This annual grant should be credited to a separate Road Development account and it should be arranged that unexpended balances should not lapse at the end of the financial year but should be carried or re-voted for expenditure in the following year.'"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. I wish to know from the hon. Member whether it is his view that communications also form part of public health?"

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That is my view, as good communications help the improvement of village sanitation and health, but I am not referring to that here. As I said, wherever the word 'road' occurs in the quotation I gave, the word 'sanitation' should be substituted, in which case there will be no technical objection."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The technical objection would be to the motor spirit."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am quoting from the report of the Road Committee and as I said . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"What is the suitable substitute for 'motor spirit'?"

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, 'the grant for village sanitation' is my substitute for 'motor spirit.' The Committee goes on to say:

'We suggest that this Convention should be established in the first instance for a period of five years after which the position should be reconsidered. We also recommend the appointment of a Standing Committee of the Indian Legislature for Roads who would advise the Government on all matters relating to roads and we further recommend that there should be a Finance Sub-Committee consisting of the members of the Assembly and that no expenditure from the annual grant should be incurred without its approval.'

"That, Sir, is the outline of the programme I submit to the House. I suggest that there should be a separate village sanitation fund, that grants should be made to it, that such grants should not lapse and that the administration of that fund should be left to the department advised by a Standing Committee of this Council. I advocate these things not merely for sanitation purposes but for the improvement of roads also. There should be a fund of this kind under the common name—Village Development fund. I am afraid you, Sir, will rule me out for referring to this."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am only trying to take the advice of the hon. Member given yesterday and to keep the debate within proper limits." (Swarajists: 'Hear, hear.')

22nd March 1929]

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Thank you, Sir, for reminding me of it. I submit, Sir, that if only the proposals put forward by this Jayakar Committee with regard to one branch of development are accepted and worked out, the sanitary conditions of the villages could be appreciably improved. There should be a sum set apart for the purpose by a separate fund being constituted and a provision made that such funds should not lapse. If this is done, a lot could be done. Arrangements should be made in this manner for five years and at the end of that period the whole thing could be reconsidered. I submit that with a view to improve conditions in village a large fund should be earmarked. I am not asking that there should be anything like a definite amount set apart every year. We should allot a definite sum, say, 50 lakhs, for being spent in the villages within three or four years. I am putting it at a low figure. If this can be done, it will be good. After all, our proposals are not unreasonable. There is a surplus of 2 crores of rupees. Out of this, to ask for setting apart a sum of 50 lakhs for the improvement of sanitation in villages is perfectly justified. This fund could be administered by the Government with the advice of a Standing Advisory Committee. In my opinion this is the only real remedy for the present state of sanitation, etc., in villages.

" I will conclude with a reference to the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee which sat in 1919. (Mr. James : 'What do they say ?') I will read what they say :

'Sanitation is still in its infancy. In rural areas it hardly exists. Disposal of refuse is primitive. Only one town is equipped with a drainage system and only 29 out of 73 municipalities have a protected water-supply ; almost nothing is done to combat malaria and the existence of such endemic diseases as hookworm and tuberculosis is ignored. The reasons for this state of things is not far to seek. Local bodies have not, even at the maximum levels of taxation allowed by law, enough money to discharge their duties properly. In fact, we consider they have on the whole done remarkably well with resources so slender.'

" I repeat that in 1929, word for word, the above remarks apply to the conditions prevailing to-day. The conditions are as bad as they could be. There has been absolutely no improvement and the maximum amount of tax is being collected. We could not do more and unless the State comes forward really to help us nothing could be done.

" In speaking on this motion I must make my position clear. I do not consider it as a motion of no confidence. I have supported this motion with a view to express the opinion of this House as to the utilization of the surplus in the hands of Government and to draw prominent attention to the necessity for Government making sincere and earnest efforts to constitute a fund for the purpose of improving the village amenities. It is but right that moneys collected from the people without the need for them immediately and kept as surplus in the coffers of the State should be returned to them in the form of improved conveniences to them. Sir, if I vote on this motion, it is not with a view to express want of confidence or otherwise but to express the opinion of the House that the Minister as responsible to this House should take up this question with the Government and see that they constitute a fund called Village Development fund as early as possible out of which the expenditure on sanitation would be one of the main items. With these words I commend this motion to the House."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I see that the Government are going to spend about 46 lakhs on Public Health. This department

[Mr. G. R. Premayya] [22nd March 1929

being new is not known to several of the mufassalites. The health of the members of the depressed classes in the villages is very poor indeed. When cholera and other epidemics prevail in the villages, the depressed classes do not get much help from the Government. To substantiate this my statement I can quote several instances. Generally the carcasses of animals are thrown in the outskirts of the palams where the depressed class quarters are situated and the burial grounds of the caste people are also in their neighbourhood. In rainy seasons the rains wash off this dirty stuff into the shallow places where the palams are situated. The bad water accumulates thus in the wells and tanks of the depressed classes. If this bad water is drunk by the members of depressed classes, any one could very easily imagine the state of health the people will have. In the deltaic districts the palams are surrounded with water for more than five months in the year. People living in those areas have neither roads nor latrines. When such is the state of affairs, the state of health of these people cannot but be miserable. The villagers are so ignorant that they do not know that the Government have created a department like this to look after their health. If they are told to-day that there is a department of this kind intended to look after their health, they simply do not believe it. For, they have never seen any health inspector or officer going to them to give any advice. Sometimes when they want to clean their wells they do not know wherefrom they can get potassium permanganate. Last year in the tailend of my district of Nellore many people died on account of taking bad water while several of them evacuated the village. Thus, several villages were deserted entirely. I ask whose duty it was to come to their rescue. Is it the duty of the medical department or the health department? It seems, Sir, that it is nobody's duty at all. If this is so, why should this enormous sum be spent on this department? Who is responsible for this kind of neglect, I ask in all earnestness. It is an undeniable fact that mortality among the deperssed classes is very high. Our boys and girls are even in these days of advanced civilization exposed to the ravages of smallpox, chickenpox, etc. Whose duty is it to vaccinate them and prevent them from falling easy victims to these diseases?

"If there is any who used the help and advice of the Public Health Department it is the depressed classes. It is their Palams that are first attacked by epidemic such as cholera, etc., and it is only afterwards that these diseases spread to the other parts of the villages. So, in order to guard against the spread of epidemic diseases such as malaria and cholera in villages, it is very essential that these diseases must be prevented from taking their root in cheries in villages. So, I would earnestly appeal to the hon. the Minister in charge to issue orders to extend the operations of this department to the farthest village of every district."

11-50 a.m.

* The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I was listening to the debate yesterday and to-day on this most interesting question and I must admit that in the course of this morning I have listened to the very valuable suggestion from the hon. Member from Chittoor. He said that in the matter of rural sanitation, you have to adopt a scheme similar to the one which has been laid down for the improvement of roads in Mr. Jayakar's report and that of the Royal Commission on Agriculture which has also made valuable suggestion on this matter. As regards rural sanitation, not only rural sanitation but as regards agriculture also, Mr. President, I must say that neither I nor the Madras Government can reasonably object to any of the

22nd March 1929] [Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar]

recommendations that have been made in the Agricultural Commission's Report. A Committee has been appointed by this Government for going into those recommendations and examining every one of them and I feel perfectly sure that this most vital matter which concerns the welfare and health of the rural population will be very carefully considered by that Committee. I am sure that the report that will be submitted by that Committee which includes the Director of Public Health, the Surgeon-General and the heads of various departments such as the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Veterinary Department, will contain most of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission's report. As regards improvement of water-supply and village roads, my hon. Friend from Chittoor said that instead of setting apart each year 4, 5, or 10 lakhs or whatever it is for rural sanitation, for water-supply and for drainage, etc., in villages, it is better to set apart a lump sum for the purpose; that either the capital set apart may be spent or the interest accruing therefrom may be spent. That is a matter which does deserve proper consideration and I feel perfectly sure that my hon. Colleagues and myself will do all that we can to give our best attention to this matter. For instance, we have what is called the Famine Relief fund; we set apart a certain sum of money for Famine Relief fund to be spent during famines irrespective of the fact whether there is famine in any particular year or not. My hon. Friend from Chittoor probably has a similar fund in view, and he wants that a certain sum should be set apart for village improvement in a lump or for a certain number of years and Government must have recourse to it for such purposes. This is a suggestion to which personally as a layman, I do not feel that there is any very strong objection. But I think it is a question which has to be examined from the financial point of view. Personally speaking, when there has been no objection to the constitution of a Famine Relief fund, there can possibly be no objection to this also. I can say that my hon. Colleagues and myself will give our best attention to this matter and do all that we can possibly do and see that a certain sum is set apart as my hon. Friend from Chittoor has suggested. Whether it will be fifty lakhs, or ten lakhs or five lakhs, that is not a matter on which I can give an undertaking. But I can assure him that his suggestion will receive the most careful consideration of this Government.

"I think his remarks have actually covered everything said yesterday with regard to rural sanitation. Of course, there may be some general remarks that less attention is paid to the primary needs of the villages, that money is taken from the people of the villages and not spent for them but spent for the comforts of the city population. Of course, the city people will get up and say that their needs are not attended to properly and that their needs are more than those of the villagers. Of course, everybody is justified in making his demand, and it would be the enedavour of the Government to distribute the money available in just proportion and according to the urgency and necessity of the demand. But the hon. Member from Chittoor said that the resources of the taluk boards and municipalities are not enough to enable them to set apart more money for the improvement of village sanitation and so on. He referred to the figures and showed that the income of the district boards and local bodies came to 2 crores of rupees and the expenditure came to 1 crore and 95 lakhs of rupees leaving a surplus of 6 lakhs of rupees for all the taluk boards put together, and that very little was left for them to attend to the

needs of the villages. He emphasised that the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee in favour of local bodies should be given effect to and, if necessary, fresh adjustments ought to be made as regards the liabilities of local boards and those of Government. As the hon. Member from Chittoor said there is liability on the part of Government to spend money for rural sanitation and water-supply and there is also the liability of the local boards to attend to it. In what proportion they should contribute is not so much a question of principle ; it is a question of the financial position of the Government and that of the local bodies. Taking the figures as stated by him it may be necessary to alter the present ratio of sharing the cost. It may not be adhered to in certain cases. More than half has to be given in the case of certain municipalities. And I hope as regards one municipality—I think Bellary it is—full grant was made. I am told by my hon. Colleague Dr. Subbarayan that three-fourths grant was made in the case of Palni and, I think, in the case of Erode municipality full grant was made. After examining the figures, we found that for particular local bodies we had to grant more than half. So, these are all questions which ought to be examined very carefully and I assure hon. Members that these questions will receive the best attention of the Government.

"There are only few other remarks which require to be answered. As regards prevention of epidemic diseases such as malaria and cholera, malaria is widespread in this province in various districts and I do not deny it. Recognizing this fact an experiment has been started for the free distribution of quinine and this is in addition to the remedies already existing for the prevention of malaria. Not only free distribution of quinine has been undertaken but an officer has been appointed to investigate into the causes of malaria in the various districts. He has investigated the causes of malaria in more than a dozen places and has sent his reports. He has made various recommendations, one of them being that certain tanks are to be kept and certain other tanks are to be filled and so on. Government in consultation with local bodies are taking steps to carry out those recommendations for rooting out malaria.

"As regards cholera wide inoculation has been resorted to and in addition to this Government propose to introduce bille vaccine which is a new remedy for preventing cholera.

"These are the lines in which the Government are proceeding and if there are any other suggestions which hon. Members wish to make certainly the Government will consider them. They will be quite glad to receive any further suggestions. If the suggestions that are put forward are worth trying or are found to be effective certainly Government will bestow their best attention to such suggestions. Or if any new experiment can be made, the Public Health Department of this province will not be slow to adopt that suggestion.

"As regards the question of water-supply there are one or two minor points to which I should like to refer. As you know, Mr. President, and as other hon. Members are also aware, there are number of tanks in villages, and every one of the tanks is most indiscriminately used by the villagers and the fouling of the water leads to the spread of epidemic diseases. I think this is a question of primary importance and unless the public and also the local bodies and municipalities co-operate with us we cannot do anything further in the matter. In July last Government issued a Government Order calling upon these local bodies to conserve certain tanks for bathing and certain other tanks for drinking purposes. How far the local bodies have carried out this

22nd March 1929] [Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar]

order is yet to be seen, because it was only issued in July last and we have not had reports as to the working of that Government Order. In December the Government issued special rules for carrying out the conservancy. If all the local bodies co-operate with us in working the various measures I feel perfectly sure that the health of the villagers will very much improve. I assure hon. Members that every one of the suggestions given by them will be very carefully considered."

*Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo:—"I very carefully listened to the speech of the hon. the Minister for Public Health and I must say that he gave no satisfactory explanation whatever. His speech is just like reading Ramayana without Rama. My hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu made out a clear case for the allocation of at least fifty lakhs of rupees out of the huge balance which the Government have now on hand for the improvement of village sanitation. The hon. Minister for Public Health has spoken of so many things, the difficulties of the villagers and village life without committing himself to anything. He did not commit himself to ten lakhs of rupees or even to ten pies. What we wanted from him was a sort of commitment, just to make the Government to take up a certain course of policy. We have heard words more sympathetic and consoling on a number of occasions. Words will not weigh with us, nor are we going to have any faith in the pretentious wailings of hon. Members on the Treasury Bench. These are election times and that makes us all the more cautious."

*The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"Quite right."

*Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo:—"My hon. Friend said that a fresh adjustment between Local Boards and Government is necessary. The report of the Financial Relations Committee was submitted to the Government as early as 1918 and 1919 and you, Sir, know what amount of trouble was undertaken and how the then Members under the Minto-Morley Reforms fought to adjust these relations.

11-45 a.m.

"A Committee was appointed, presided over by an Executive Member on the Treasury Bench, Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib. After an elaborate enquiry, this Committee submitted a report. What has the Government done so far? To-day they are shedding crocodile tears; it is a pity. They say that they would adjust the relations. When are you going to adjust them? Your predecessors have been in office for six years and you for two and a half years. On the verge of handing over charge after six or eight months, you say you are going to adjust the relations. I think it would have come with better grace if the hon. Minister for Public Health had made this statement one or two years before. You say that you do not deny the existence of epidemic diseases, such as, malaria and cholera. But what is the provision you have made in the budget? A provision, a starving provision of Rs $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs has been made to combat epidemic diseases. With this provision you want the health staff to carry on and maintain the health work of this Presidency. Poor and unfortunate people as they are, none excites more pity than this unfortunate department who are asked to undertake a stupendous responsibility of the upkeep of the health work of this province of $42\frac{1}{2}$ millions of people with a grant of Rs. $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs calculated at less than half a pice per head! We have been told that it is the mufassal people that are mainly responsible for the insanitary conditions due to their indiscriminate use of tanks. The unfortunate villager is an agriculturist and hence has to

look after his plough animals. Added to these, he has to bathe himself and drink water as also his family. The Minister for Public Health gets up on his feet and says: 'look here, mufassal people, your indiscriminate using the water has led to the existence of cholera and other epidemic diseases.' Great is the discovery indeed at this late hour. For a Presidency having about 52,000 villages you allot Rs. 5½ lakhs for water and you say that the villager with his gravest sin of indiscrimate using of village tanks, made himself responsible for the existing state of things. Dividing this paltry sum of Rs. 5½ lakhs among these 52,000 villages, hon. Members will see that an average of Rs. 10 per village can be had. Not less than a sum of Rs. 500 at least is necessary for sinking one well in a village, though there are several villages which require more than four or five wells for their necessities, leaving aside the requirements of their animals. These being the existing conditions and circumstances, it is very unwise and—need I add—irresponsible on the part of the Ministry to come forward with such a small grant.

"Referring to the budget, one sees that there has been a progressive provision under this head, Rs. 25 lakhs in the year 1927–28, Rs. 37 lakhs in the year 1928–29 and Rs. 47 lakhs in the year 1929–30. From the report of the Accountant-General, hon. Members will please see that there have been huge lapses every year for which the Government have little explanation. In the year 1926–27 the department allowed a lapse of Rs. 10¼ lakhs; in the year 1927–28 the lapses amounted to Rs. 15 lakhs. I therefore say that there is no utility in budgeting for higher sums of money when you have no policy, when you have no programme and when you cannot and do not know how to spend money on questions of life and death to the people. No use therefore to call upon the unfortunate health staff to look after the public health of this province budgeting a paltry sum and giving it to lapse. You cannot look after the public health of this province without budgeting the necessary money to improve the water sources from which infection begins and combat epidemic and endemic diseases. The epidemic diseases in our province have become notoriously chronic. To fight against the disease, you require not only additional staff but also additional funds. When this Public Health Department was created in the year 1923 I was one of those who was against the creation of the department; I said 'you are creating an army without ammunition.' Even to-day, in the year 1929–30, I stick to the same position. Hon. Members of this House will see that even to-day the Public Health staff is a big army without ammunition.

"Sir, the following state of things reflects very little credit on the Treasury bench. The toll of deaths in our province after the inauguration of the Reforms has increased to more than what it was before the Reforms. I shall take hon. Members of this House through the Statistical Abstract of British India; it shows that while the death-rate was 21·8 for every 1,000 of the population in the year 1920, it is now 25·6. This rate has again been progressive. The figures do not justify the existence of either the Health Department or the Minister, and the cry of hon. Members of this House has not gone an inch towards the progress of relieving the distress of the people. Looking at the same table, in regard to Burma, a province which is more malaria-ridden than our province, hon. Members will see that there has been a progressive fight in that province by the Ministry against death tolls from all causes. Thus, the death-rate was 26·44 in the year 1920, it is now reduced to 20·97,

22nd March 1929] [Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo]

The same thing can be said of even a worse province like Assam. Even in Bengal where the death rate is very high owing to insanitary conditions, it has very much improved, and the fall in death rate there has shown a progressive tendency. Looking into another table in the same Statistical Abstract, hon. Members will see that the death rate in the mufassal is far worse, and shall I be taken to task if I say that hon. Members on the Treasury bench who represent the rural constituencies have done little to justify their existence there?

" A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs has been set apart for temperance propaganda. Is it to mend it or end it? They are doing grave injustice to that movement . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the hon. Member is in order at all to speak of the temperance movement on this motion."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" With these words I support the motion. I hold the view, Sir, that the hon. Minister for Public Health has failed to make out a case to justify his position and existence by his work during these two and a half years."

Mr. F. E. JAMES :—" Sir, I move that the question be now put."

(Mr. V. CH. John rose to address the House.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is a long time since the House heard the hon. Member."

* Mr. V. CH. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I brought to the attention of the hon. Minister the deplorable condition of the depressed classes with regard to water-supply. I know by experience, I have travelled through many villages and found, that many of them have no wells at all. These villagers are too poor to sink their own wells; the caste people have one or two wells of their own in the village and these poor people have to wait for hours together to get a potful of water for drinking purposes, let alone the water necessary for bathing, washing clothes, etc. Such is the deplorable condition of the villagers especially the depressed classes. Sometimes they are compelled to drink water from dirty ponds full of malarial germs, and they have to share water along with animals and pigs. Such being the case, it is no wonder that any epidemic generally breaks out in places inhabited by depressed classes. This state of things has been brought to the notice of the Government several times and I do not think that anything has been done so far to redress their grievances. I once more urge upon the attention of the Government that special attention should be paid to this matter, that money must be earmarked for this purpose and that wells should be dug, so that the depressed classes also, as human as anybody else, are given this elementary right of getting drinking water at least to live. I wish also to state that as a rule sanitary inspectors and vaccinators do not care to visit the places inhabited by depressed classes. Somehow or other, they fight shy of them. Thus these people do not at all get their share of medical relief. I request the Government to take note of this fact also. With regard to roads . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is not at all in order in referring to roads on this motion."

* Mr. V. CH. JOHN :—" I request the Government to pay special attention to the condition of the depressed classes with regard to water-supply and medical relief."

[22nd March 1929

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is 'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 45,27,300 for Public Health by Rs. 100'. "

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao demanded a poll and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

1. Mr. C. E. Wood.
2. ,, F. E. James.
3. ,, H. F. P. Hearson.
4. ,, S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
5. The Zamindar of Kallikotta.
6. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
7. Khan Bahadur P. Khalifullah Sahib Bahadur.
8. Mr. G. R. Premayya.
9. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
10. Mr. V. Ramjee Rao.
11. ,, P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
12. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
13. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
14. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
15. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
16. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
17. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
18. ,, Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib.
19. ,, L. K. Tulasiram.
20. ,, K. V. R. Swami.
21. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
22. ,, K. R. Karant.
23. ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
24. ,, C. Obi Reddi.
25. Mr. A. Parasurama Rao.
26. ,, C. Ramasomayajulu.
27. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
28. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
29. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
30. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
31. ,, K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
32. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
33. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
34. Mr. Ramanath Goenka.
35. ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
36. ,, R. Nagan Gowda.
37. ,, C. Gopala Menon.
38. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
39. ,, Sir A. P. Patro.
40. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.
41. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
42. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.
43. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
44. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi.
45. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.

Noes

1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
2. ,, Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
3. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
5. ,, Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
6. ,, Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar.
7. ,, Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Mr. Hilton Brown.
9. ,, H. A. Watson.
10. ,, C. A. Souter.
11. ,, S. H. Slater.
12. ,, A. McG. C. Tampoe.
13. ,, C. W. E. Cotton.
14. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
15. ,, Syed Tajudin Sahib.
16. ,, A. B. Shetty.
17. ,, J. Bheemayya.
18. ,, R. Foulkes.
19. Mr. P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai.
20. ,, Mahmud Schamnad Sahib.
21. ,, Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara.
22. The Zamindar of Singampatti.
23. Mr. J. Kuppuswami.
24. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
25. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudiripad.
26. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
27. ,, K. Krishnan.
28. ,, N. Sivaraj.
29. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.
30. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
31. ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nadar.
32. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
33. ,, S. V. Vanavudaya Gounder.
34. ,, S. Venkiah.
35. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
36. Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai.

Neutral.

1. Mr. V. Ch. John.
2. Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi.
3. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
4. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
5. Khan Sahib T. M. Moidoo Sahib.

Ayes 45. Noes 36. Neutral 5.

The motion was carried.

22nd March 1929]

* Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—" Mr. President, I beg to move the following motion : 12 noon.

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 45,27,300 for Public Health—Transferred by Rs. 100 to discuss the policy of Government regarding maternity and child-welfare work in the Presidency.*'

" Sir, I want to know if the Government, as the Government of other civilized countries, is going to take the initiative and bear the responsibility of organizing maternity and child-welfare centres throughout the Presidency because now the initiative and action in the matter is left entirely to the discretion of the local bodies and the municipalities or other voluntary agencies. When we study what is being done in other countries to save the life of mothers and children and also to relieve their suffering, I believe that our Government is not doing its part of the duty by the most important branch of medical relief. First of all, there are no well-qualified women officers to take up the work of organizing and running centres. In England there are a number women officers who are engaged in the work of organizing centres and who are trained to guide, to direct the work at these centres. Here, there is not one medical officer in the Public Health Department. The value of propaganda in plague, cholera, hook-worm and other ailments are recognized, but the value of propaganda for the vital concerns of life of mothers and children, to save their lives and to prevent their illnesses, is not recognized, because in the budget on public health, for propaganda for child welfare and social hygiene, etc., only a provision of Rs. 6,000 is made. But in England, there is a senior woman medical officer whose reputation has spread even to our country, Dr. Janet Campbell under whom are working a number of qualified medical officers, whose work is to carry on investigation, research into the causation of maternal and infantile diseases."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" On a point of order, Sir. Maternity and child-welfare come under Medical and not under Public Health. I should like to know under which head it comes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before I settle the question, I would ask Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar whether it is under the Surgeon-General or under the Director of Public Health."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Surgeon-General."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yesterday, I myself felt the doubt and I asked the Secretary to ascertain it from the Director of Public Health and the latter mentioned to the Secretary that the subject was under him. The Secretary says that he also enquired of the hon. the Minister himself and got the same reply from him."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It is so, Mr. President."

* Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—" The tragedy is that we have been having a constant change of Ministers and that is why before the hon. Minister studied the condition . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may proceed with the speech."

* Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—" These women medical officers are responsible for the organization of maternity and child-welfare centres and

[Dr (Mrs.) S Muthulakshmi Reddi] [22nd March 1929

they carry on enquiries and investigations into the causation of maternal and infantile deaths. Again their results are made known to the public, not only through the press but also through a number of popular pamphlets and through special propaganda officers. These women officers visit the districts and enlist the sympathy of the local people. Human nature is the same everywhere and in England also there was ignorance and there was a high maternal and infantile mortality. Even two years before, the Minister for Public Health mentioned that a mother when she was asked to attend a child-welfare centre, informed the health visitor that she knew how she buried six children and hence she knew how to deal with the other. Now, what do we find there? Every mother knows how to take care of herself and knows how to bring up children. All that is no doubt due to the education that has been brought about within a period of few years, owing to the Government assuming the responsibility and also the municipalities and local bodies co-operating with them. In England and Wales, we find they have got an enactment called the Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918 by which the local bodies are forced to open maternity and child welfare centres and to contribute 50 per cent of their income towards their expenditure. The Government looks to the employment of proper staff, gives them instructions and directions through Government communiqués. Again, they have the Midwives' Act of 1903 by which every practising midwife is made to register her name and they are supervised by what are called maternity supervisors and if there is any neglect on the part of the midwives, it is brought to the notice of the Central Midwives Council. They have also got health schools. Owing to these and other activities, what we now find in England and Wales to-day is, they have got 2,218 maternity and child welfare centres, where there is a population of only as much as our Presidency; 105 day nurseries, 107 maternity homes: 641 anti-natal centres, 894 health visitors and 80,000 trained nurses. In addition, no doubt to these salaried officers, there is an army of devoted and educated band of women workers. True, no doubt, here also we have got many voluntary agencies, in spite of the low rate of literacy figure among our women. Here in Madras there is the provincial branch of the Red Cross Society. On that body, there are many missionary lady workers with whom our own women also are working in conjunction and it is only through that association that mufassal centres have been started, but the Government so far has not come forward to help us with any liberal grant. That association has started centres by giving grants and the members of the committee going to the mufassal and enlisting the sympathy of local men and women. They have up to now started about 46 centres in the mufassal. Every day, we are receiving applications from the mufassal for more centres. We have no money to give them. Then, people ask for trained workers and health visitors, but unfortunately, there is no health school. Last year, we made an application to the Surgeon-General for a grant for opening a health school, because for want of health visitors, these child welfare centres cannot at all work efficiently, because the health visitor has to be an experienced woman, who ought to possess the qualifications of a nurse and a midwife and should possess a public health diploma. More than that, she should be an experienced woman and in addition, she should have sympathy, love and devotion for the work, because she has to go to the houses of mothers and advise them, she has to get their sympathy, be a friend and guide to them, as these are qualities needed for a health visitor. The Madras Corporation must be congratulated on the work of maternity and

22nd March 1929] [Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi]

child-welfare relief and on the success they have achieved by the scheme. But the mufassal municipalities and local boards are not composed of expert medical people. So, Government ought to assume responsibility in this matter of the most important and vital section of medical relief.

"Then again, if our girls want to train themselves as health visitors, they have to go to Delhi. Just imagine girls brought up under seclusion having been forced to go to Delhi. Now our association has realized the necessity, of opening a school, with the help of the money at our disposal, and expecting money from Government we have launched upon the scheme of opening a school in the month of July. We hope, that next year, with the help and sympathy of the Minister and the Surgeon-General, we could get money for the school.

"As regards dhais, I could not speak on that subject yesterday. The Minister himself does not seem to know that in several districts in Northern India, many mothers are attended by dhais during child-birth who are trained by health visitors, who are in charge of maternity and child welfare centres in the mufassal. They are also responsible for the training of dhais in their districts. In Northern India, as there is so much of purdah, it is generally stated that people in South India are more intelligent than those of Northern India, and I cannot believe the Minister saying that our dhais are not coming forward to get training. In Northern India under the scheme, by giving small presents these dhais are attracted to these maternity and child welfare centres and the lady health visitor there becomes their friend, gives them instruction and very soon they come to realize the value of such training, because it is very much appreciated by the people. A similar scheme can also be worked up here if the Government takes up the responsibility of opening maternity and child welfare centres and employing lady health visitors who will train the dhais in that area and when they are trained they will be made available to our mothers. As I mentioned yesterday, our mothers are allowed to die in such large numbers for want of help. Thirty thousand women of child-bearing age died in 1927 from conditions mostly preventible associated with pregnancy and labour. When science has so much advanced, are we justified in allowing our mothers to suffer and die? Mr. Nevelle Chamberlain, speaking on motherhood's scourge (I hope our Minister also will echo the same sentiments), said :—

'It seems to me a terrible thing that to-day out of 250 mothers one dies in child-birth and equally terrible that the rate has persisted unchanged for the last twenty years. And that is not really the whole measure of the injury that is being done One must not only remember what happens when the mother alone is taken away and the child cannot have the care which the mother alone can show. We must think also of the mothers who emerge from confinement partly injured in health, the nervous system shattered unable to fulfil the full duties of mother herself.'

"How much more acute is our condition, where the figure for maternal mortality for our Presidency is 20 per thousand. Therefore, I submit, on behalf of the suffering mothers and children, that this House should strongly support this motion by which we may have a properly organized maternity scheme, so that mothers and children may have the advantage of scientific trained help at the time of their need. With these words, I move my cut motion for the acceptance of the House."

12-15 p.m.

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding this motion. Sir, the rural areas are seldom visited by the health officers and the visits paid by health inspectors are few and far

between. They come once in a way and give to the village headman some medicine. The medicine generally given is a specific for cholera. The headman is asked to distribute it among the villagers. The village headman does not generally know how and when it should be given. He may not be bold enough to enter a house in the village where the cholera-stricken person is lying in bed, in need of treatment. Further it is a matter within the knowledge of almost all of us that women are shy by temperament and they will not come forward and ask for medicine or say what the patient is suffering from if anything goes wrong with him. As the womenfolk are not educated, they do not know even the fundamental laws of hygiene and consequently due to their neglect the health of their children is left uncared for and they are attacked by disease which, with proper care, may be arrested and cured very easily. I may say, in this connexion, Sir, that vaccination is necessary in the case of village children. Not to speak of the hookworm disease from which very few are immune, there is a terrible disease called the guinea worm disease to which I am afraid almost all women are victims in certain villages. In spite of it the poor women have to attend to their daily avocations. Therefore I think something, a great deal, has to be done to protect the health of the mothers in the villages. There are certain diseases which can be cured at the early stages; but generally it happens they are neglected at the first stage or stages and the victims become aware of the seriousness of the disease, when their strength fails them, when the disease has affected vital organs. They seek medical relief at that stage, that is when it is too late to cure it.

" Sir, pressure ought to be brought to bear on the local bodies to start maternity and child-welfare centres. My friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu will ask me where the money is to come from. He himself has rightly pointed out that when block grants are granted to Local Self-Government departments for roads, similar block grants should be provided for the local bodies to start child-welfare and maternity centres. Coming as I do from a village, and connected intimately as I am with village life and village sanitation, I can assure this House that the general health of the women and children in the villages is terribly neglected. My friend said that the condition of the depressed classes is not in any way ameliorated. May I point out to him that it is due to the fact that the villages are beyond the reach of the health officers, and hence no wonder the villages are to-day where they were. Therefore, if pressure is brought to bear upon local bodies, they can do a great deal in this direction. For I believe that local bodies are the only fit persons who can undertake this work with profit. For, what is the position of these villages at the present day? They are situated here and there, sometimes with no roads leading to them, and if some have cart-tracks they are in such a hopeless state that no vehicles can pass over them without accident; and in rainy seasons these villages are, as it were, completely cut off from the outside world. Under these circumstances they are beyond the reach of the Health department. I think if we want to improve the health of the rural areas we will require not lakhs but crores of rupees. Is it not possible for the hon. the Health Minister to come forward with, at least, this modest scheme of giving block grants to the various local bodies so that they can train midwives and local health officers to cope with this work?

" My friend also spoke of the benefits accruing from the work of certain voluntary health associations. I do not know why Government do not extend their liberal help to them. In my opinion these voluntary health associations

22nd March 1929] [Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar]

ought to be encouraged by liberal grants; and if this is done, they will be able to extend their range of activity and bring relief to the very door of the poor in the rural areas. So, in seconding this motion, I say that unless something is done in this direction, there is no salvation for the hundreds and thousands of the poor, illiterate and helpless men, women and children in the rural areas."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 45,27,300 for Public Health—Transferred by Rs. 100."

* Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—"Mr. President, Sir, in the rural areas the hamlets inhabited by the depressed classes form an eyesore, in that on one side of them we see the prickly-pear in thick growth and on the other side we see all village rubbish heaped up and allowed to stand there and on the third side a stinking well. In these insanitary regions do the innocent children of the depressed classes play and roam about day in and day out; for is it not a fact that these poor folk have to take their bed on the ground in front of their hamlets? What is the result? They have perforce to inhale this foul smell and fall victims to dire diseases. The parents who form the bulk of agricultural labour, they leave their homes very early in the morning and return very late in the night taking practically no care about their children. For these reasons I have much pleasure in supporting this motion brought by the hon. the Deputy President, as far as the health and welfare of the children is concerned. (Hear, hear.) Sir, Health officers play a very important part in improving the lot of the village people."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question of the public health of cheris is not under consideration now. The question is to discuss the policy of Government regarding maternity and child welfare work in the Presidency. It will not be relevant to bring under that the general question of the state of the public health of the cheris."

Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—"Sir, I want to say a few words about my own district. I know maternity and child-welfare centres have been started but for want of funds they are not functioning properly. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. the Health Minister to give liberal grants to them."

* The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, this question of increasing the number of child-welfare and maternity centres has already engaged the attention of the Government. During the course of the last year we wanted to appoint special officers for the purpose of encouraging and starting these societies in the various mufassal centres, and this subject was placed before the Finance Committee and they said that this matter was not urgent, that it could wait for some time, and we are bringing forth that subject once again for further consideration in the course of this year. The South Indian Health Association has been started in December or November last, and that association is taking steps to attend to the various things required under this head. The voluntary associations are also doing good work, and the question whether Government help can be extended to these associations for their maintenence and building is being separately considered. And there is an application from the Trichinopoly Health Association for building grants. Till now the policy of Government has been not to make grants for these purposes. A start has been made and small grants have been provided for two institutions, one, I think, in Malabar and another in Arkonam. How far this grant can be extended is under the

[Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar] [22nd March 1929

consideration of the Government now. As I have said already, two applications from two bodies have been complied with and the third application is being considered."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the House is ready for a vote. The question is 'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 45,27,300 for Public Health —Transferred by Rs. 100'."

The motion was put to vote and lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

1. Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi.
2. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
3. Mr. P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
4. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
5. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
6. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
7. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
8. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
9. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
10. Mr. L. K. Tulasiram.
11. ,, K. V. R. Swami.
12. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
13. ,, K. R. Karant.
14. ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
15. ,, C. Obi Reddi.
16. ,, A. Parasurama Rao.
17. Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu.
18. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
19. ,, P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu.
20. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
21. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
22. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
23. ,, K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
24. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
25. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
26. Mr. Ramanath Goenka.
27. ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
28. ,, R. Nagan Gowda.
29. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar.
30. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
31. Mr. G. R. Premayya.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
2. ,, Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
3. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
5. ,, Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
6. ,, Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar.
7. ,, Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Mr. Hilton Brown.
9. ,, H. A. Watson.
10. ,, C. A. Souter.
11. ,, S. H. Slater.
12. ,, McG. C. Tampoe.
13. ,, C. W. E. Cotton.
14. ,, V. Ch. John.
15. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
16. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur.
17. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar.
18. ,, A. B. Shetty.
19. ,, J. Bheemayya.
20. ,, R. Foulkes.
21. ,, P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai.
22. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
23. Mr. Mupil Nayar of Kavalappara.
24. The Zamindar of Singampatti.
25. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
26. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
27. ,, K. Krishnan.
28. ,, N. Siva Raj.
29. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.
30. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nadar.
31. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
32. ,, S. V. Vanavudaya Goundar.
33. ,, S. Venkiah.
34. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
35. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
36. ,, H. F. P. Hearson.
37. The Zamindar of Kallikota.
38. Mr. F. E. James.
39. ,, P. T. Rajan.
40. ,, T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
41. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.
42. Khan Sahib T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
43. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
44. Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai.

Ayes 31. Noes 44.

The motion was lost.

12-30 p.m.

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Mr. President, Sir, in the three or four minutes left, I wish to move this motion, namely,—

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 45,27,300 for Public Health—Transferred by Rs. 100, to censure the Public Health policy of the Minister.'

22nd March 1929] [Mr. K. R. Karant]

" As almost all questions affecting public health have been discussed in the previous cut motion, I propose now to confine myself only to the question of the expenditure of 4 lakhs of rupees for propaganda for temperance. I am sorry, Mr. President, that I cannot give this hon. House an idea of how this amount is going to be spent, but from the notes placed before the Finance Committee—and I may inform hon. Members that this grant was turned down by the Finance Committee—the object of this expenditure would be clear. This is what the note says:

' The Government accepted in principle the plan of contributing from public funds to the resources of non-official temperance organizations and invited certain temperance organizations to state what amount they could usefully spend in a year on propaganda work, how they propose to spend any grants which the Government might find it possible to make and whether they could start new societies or even get individuals to do the propaganda work. Several societies have responded and have proposed, if sufficient financial assistance is given, to carry on propaganda work generally on the following lines:—

(1) Organizing lectures (including lantern lectures) by honorary or paid lecturers;
(2) publication of temperance pamphlets, handbills and journals;
(3) education of children through temperance, recitation contests, etc.;
(4) organizing new societies; and
(5) appointment of whole-time secretaries and workers.

' The total amount which has been asked for by societies is about Rs. 32,000. The Government, however, addressed only a few societies of whose existence they had definite information. There may be other societies willing to do the work and new societies have to be formed. Moreover, besides societies, individual propagandists may have to be subsidised. For example, it has been reported that a retired Government servant of position, who is said to have considerable influence, is willing to undertake propaganda work by touring and lecturing in the Presidency, by the publication of temperance pamphlets and by performing dramas in English and in the vernaculars and in other ways, and a request has been made on his behalf for financial help to cover the expenses which will be actually incurred by him.'

" Mr. President, all this money is for propaganda for temperance. Now, I really feel as a Member of this House that when there are various urgent measures, such as the prevention of malaria or the question of housing, or the prevention of leprosy and many others, it is not proper for the Government to spend 4 lakhs for this purpose, and I appeal to all hon. Members to see that this motion is passed. I may state it plainly that this motion is not going to be a sort of censure motion against the Ministry. I only make it as a measure of pure retrenchment, and so I appeal to all hon. Members to vote for this motion."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" I second it."

* The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, this question of propaganda as regards temperance and the drink evil has been discussed a number of times on the floor of this House and I have said that the only way to achieve the goal of prohibition in any particular period as has been decided on by this Council is by means of this temperance propaganda. (A Voice :—' Total prohibition.') The Council decided that total prohibition ought to be the goal of this Government (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : ' In word only') and the Excise Advisory Committee, which sat to discuss this question as to how this goal is to be arrived at, recommended this as the only possible course. And the Conference of Collectors at which this question was also discussed approved of the propaganda scheme. The Government have come to the conclusion that this is a matter in which Government ought to take the initiative. This matter having been started by the Government, the propaganda work, as I have already said, will be done by the non-official agencies, and will be done not for one or two years only but as long as this propaganda is considered necessary for this province. Some of my hon.

[Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar] [22nd March 1929

Friends seem to be under the impression that this propaganda will be only for drink in moderation. I do not know how this idea got into the heads of hon. Members. The only propaganda will be to tell the people ' Don't drink '. That is the answer which I have already given to questions and any reference to the Council proceedings and my public utterances will only show that this propaganda is for prohibition and not against excessive drinking. Hon. Members perhaps formed this impression owing to the use of the word ' temperance ' in connexion with this propaganda. But all associations which preach against the drink evil are called temperance associations, and their propaganda, which is for ' no drink ' is called temperance propaganda."

The motion was put and declared lost. Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao demanded a poll and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

1. Mr. P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
2. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
3. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
4. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
5. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
6. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
7. ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
8. ,, L. K Tulasiram.
9. ,, K. V. R. Swami
10. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
11. ,, K. R. Karant.
12. ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
13. ,, C. Obi Reddi.
14. ,, A. Parasurama Rao.
15. Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu.
16. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
17. ,, P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu.
18. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
19. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
20. ,, M. Narayana Rao
21. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
22. ,, K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
23. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
24. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
25. Mr. Ramanath Goenka.
26. ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
27. ,, R. Nagan Gowda.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
2. ,, Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
3. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
5. ,, Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
6. ,, Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar.
7. ,, Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai.
9. Mr. Hilton Brown.
10. ,, H. A. Watson.
11. ,, C. A. Souter.
12. ,, S. H. Slater.
13. ,, A. McG. C. Tampoe.
14. ,, C. W. E. Cotton.
15. ,, V. Ch. John.
16. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
17. ,, Syed Tajudin Sahib.
18. ,, C. D. Appavu Chettiyar.
19. ,, A. B. Shetty.
20. ,, J. Bheemayya.
21. ,, R. Foulkes.
22. ,, P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai.
23. ,, Mahmud Schamnad Sahib
24. ,, Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara.
25. The Zamindar of Singampatti.
26. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
27. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
28. ,, K. Krishnan.
29. ,, N. Siva Raj.
30. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.
31. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
32. ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nadar.
33. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
34. ,, S. Venkayya.
35. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
36. Mr. J. Kuppuswami.
37. ,, C. E. Wood.
38. ,, F. E. James
39. ,, H. F. P. Hearson.
40. ,, S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
41. The Zamindar of Kallikota.
42. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
43. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur
44. Mr. G. R. Premayya.
45. ,, Swami A. S Sahajanandam.
46. ,, V Ramjee Rao.
47. ,, Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai.
48. Rao Bahadur C. S Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
49. Mr. P. T Rajan.
50. ,, T. K Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
51. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
52. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.
53. Khan Sahib T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
54. Mr. K. Sarabha Raddi.
55. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
56. Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.

Ayes 27. Noes 56.

22nd March 1929]

The motion was lost.

The demand minus Rs. 100 was then put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—AGRICULTURE.

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

' that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 18·84 lakhs under " Demand XXIII—Agriculture ".'

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" I beg to move, Sir—

' that the allotment of Rs. 18,83,700 for Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100 '

to censure the agricultural policy of the Minister. I do not know whether hon. Members are aware that a considerable portion of this year's expenditure on this subject of Agriculture goes for what is called the re-organization of the Agricultural department. I shall confine myself to that and to one other point only. Sir, this re-organization of the Agricultural department is a sufficiently serious business. In the course of ten years it is proposed to incur an extra recurring expenditure of Rs. 4·96 lakhs and a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. $8\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. It is therefore worth while for this House to consider this question and to see whether really this re-organization is necessary to the extent to or the manner in which it is proposed. I may submit, Mr. President, that this re-organization is said to be based on the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. But we have heard it said again and again in this House both by way of answers to questions and also, as confessed to-day by one of the Ministers, that the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture are now before a Committee and that they are yet to be decided upon. Now, before these questions are decided upon by the Committee and before the activities of this department are thoroughly looked into, it would not be advisable to incur any expenditure on the department. For instance, I may mention that one of the chief points made in the report of the Commission was that large areas of lands now included in the Forest department should be taken up by the Agricultural department for the purpose of cultivation and also for the purpose of providing pasture grounds. These and many other questions are going to be discussed, I hope, by this Committee or this House, and the Government is yet to come to any conclusion on these important aspects, and yet we find that the Government is committing itself to a ten-year programme of increasing the establishment of the Agricultural department which will involve a recurring expenditure, as I mentioned, of about 5 lakhs at the end of ten years. I have before me, Sir, the report of the Director of Agriculture on the various items of this re-organization. I may mention to hon. Members, that viewed from the standpoint of rural conditions and of the needs of the villager, I am sorry to say that many of these proposals are really unnecessary and are not wise. Out of a total expenditure of Rs. 4·96 lakhs the salaries of some of the important officers which are involved in this scheme come to more than half. A sum of Rs. 2·50 lakhs out of Rs. 4·96 lakhs is intended for about 40 officers who are to get Rs. 400 or Rs. 500 each per month or if not more. I think it is a patent fact that every department of this Government is already top-heavy, and these re-organization proposals will only result in making the department all

[Mr. K. R. Karant] [22nd March 1929

the more so. It is not simply as a matter of criticizing Government policy that I submit that, knowing as I claim to do to some extent the needs of the people, it is unnecessary to increase the number of officers at the top to such a large extent.

12-45 p.m. " I will mention only one or two points more. These proposals involve amongst others chiefly the increasing of the number of superintendents of farms. The total number to be increased to is 11 and the average net cost per month for each man is 466½ rupees. That is, they will be on a grade of Rs. 250—750. The object of that is to put all farms under the charge of these people. Now, my submission is that it is not necessary to put all Government farms under people who are getting every month a salary of Rs. 466 or so. There may be some good farms which may be put in charge of such people, for I see from the report that some of these farms are to be put under research officers for a period of five years and after that they are to be handed over to the administration of the Deputy Director of Agriculture. It is my firm conviction that it is not at all necessary to put all Government farms under people getting such a large salary.

" Even the policy with regard to these farms should be changed. I do not object to Government spending the necessary moneys for the acquisition of farms; but after they are placed under the charge of research officers for 4 or 5 years, they should be handed over to other people who should be able to support themselves on the income to be derived from those farms. It is no use spending lakhs and lakhs. If you want to demonstrate to the people that the farms are paying it is quite necessary to put such staff on these farms as will live on the income from them, apart from the question of paying decent interest on the capital. I got sometime ago certain figures regarding the Kasaragod coconut farm and I find that it was not practically paying at all. Therefore it is my conviction that it is not at all a wise policy to increase the number of these high paid officers. There is one other proposal. Now, we have got for 2 or 3 districts one Assistant Director of Agriculture. These people are going to be re-named as District Agricultural officers, and almost every district is to have one such officer. All these persons are to draw this high salary of 400 and 500 rupees. I think this is unnecessary. The salaries only of these officers amount to 2½ lakhs out of a total expenditure of 5 lakhs proposed. It seems to me that this policy of re-organizing the whole department at this stage is quite unwise, when the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture which touch almost every item of agriculture in this Presidency are still under consideration. I think the Government will do well to postpone this matter, so that this re-organization may be considered along with the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

" Then, one other point that I want to refer to is the utter lack of sympathy on the part of the present Minister and the previous Ministers also, to the needs of the agriculturists in respect of reserved forests. We have in this House passed so many resolutions pointing out that these forests are being administered to the prejudice of the ryots."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the Minister has anything to do with the forest policy."

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" My submission is that even the Royal Commission on Agriculture has stated that when there was no Forest department, quite a number of lands including grazing lands. . ."

22nd March 1929]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the hon. Member will agree with me when I say that all the questions that are dealt with by the Agricultural Commission will not be pertinent to the Agricultural Department as it is constituted at present under the Ministry."

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" What I say is that the Minister has not made any attempts to see that large forests are taken over by him, which is his legitimate duty."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member ought to have taken his opportunity at the time of the Secretariat Demand, because the Secretary in charge of agriculture happens to be in charge of forests as well. A motion to cut short the pay of his stenographer would be a good occasion for censuring the Government both as regards agriculture and forests. This is a wrong opportunity for the hon. Member to avail himself of."

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" I do not wish to pursue the matter. Then the next question is as regards livestock, and I feel that nothing has been done in this regard for improving the breed or providing better fodder. We hear that there is a livestock officer on a large salary touring about in the districts. The breed of cattle has not improved, and there is no use of spending thousands and placing one or two bulls at certain places if Government do not care to see that these cows after covering get really good treatment. So far as fodder is concerned, I do not think the department has done anything substantial to see that the needs of the people are satisfied and new methods put into vogue. I do not wish to take up more time of the House."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" Sir, I wish to second the motion that has been moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Karant. In the last few weeks I had the opportunity of putting a number of questions relating to the Department of Agriculture in this Presidency, and from the answers we have seen that the department has not been able to do an extensive amount of work that one would rather expect it to. As to the number of bulls that they have been able to place for breeding purposes in the country, at the Veterinary College they have seven bulls, and one at Ootacamund and the list of premier bulls comes to only 17. They have sold about 19 bulls."

Mr. Kaleswara Rao was seen crossing to the other side, at which the President observed—

" No Member should pass between the Treasury bench and the Secretary's table under any circumstances."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" I mention this instance just to indicate how slow the department has been moving in this matter. Sir, I am anxious that the Department of Agriculture does more extensive work than it has been doing. In the matter of stationing breeding bulls in the villages I would ask the Government to copy the example of the Punjab. In the district of Gengoan alone, they have been able to place as many as 600 bulls. That shows the amount of work that lies ahead of this department.

" Then, as regards sheep, the Department of Agriculture opened a sheep-breeding station as early as 1912. So far, the number of rams they have been able to sell is only 54. This is not a very rapid way of improving the live-stock of the country. I asked whether they have been able to do anything for the Ceded districts in the way of improving the cattle there. I do

not think the department has come to any decision even as to the kind of cattle that are needed there. At least that is the impression I gathered from the answer to the question I asked a few days ago. They say that the department is not in a position to say anything about the lines on which this can be done in Ceded districts. They are waiting for requests from the people before they find out what is needed for the Ceded districts in this line. I just want to know what they have been doing all this time.

"I am inclined to think that the department has not been following some of its own lessons which it is giving to the agriculturists in the Presidency. There are departmental farms all over the Presidency at least for experimenting. Now, there is a farm at Nandyal and one at Hagari. I should like that some things that are preached to the people especially regarding the best kind of cows, the best kind of bulls, the best kinds of poultry, etc., are practised and demonstrated on the best farm. If the department cannot do it, who else would do it? I asked what kind of bulls they are keeping at Hagari; whether they are keeping typical bulls for the area in which this farm is situated. The reply was evasive, viz., only bulls suitable for farm operations are kept. It is a farm with three or four hundred acres. I think they have need for a number of bullocks. There are more than 30 or 40 people on the farm and for all their requirements they should have cows and chicken of the best type. I say again that the department ought to practise on these farms what they preach. I do not see how the department is in any way different from the ryot in this matter.

"I asked if they are doing anything for improving the poultry in the country. They said that they have one poultry demonstration farm in the Presidency. Sir, it is not enough if you push on with only a few lines of work. It is not enough if you say that we should wait till some work is completed before taking up another line of work. All these lines of work must go on simultaneously; otherwise we may have to wait a long time. This minor item of work, viz., poultry breeding, ought to be taken up immediately in almost every district. It might be said that this is an unimportant line of work. To the ryot it is important. It adds considerably to his food supply. If he lives near a big city, it will greatly add to his income.

"It is said that more important major lines of work should be taken up first. Even on these lines they have not done all they can. One important grain that the majority of people consume is cholam. It was not till very recently that they started a millet station at Coimbatore. Coimbatore is not as typical an area for millet as Ceded districts are. I understand there were proposals for opening a millet station at Adoni, but for want of estimates no provision has been made for starting a station this year. I just want to know what the department is doing with its large staff."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member will continue his speech after lunch."

The Council adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (3 p.m.).

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"Sir, I was saying before we rose for lunch the Government have been claiming that they are engaged in a number of more important items of work. But I find they have not been tackling even

very important questions. Sir, the question of breeding better varieties of sugarcane has not received till very recently the amount of attention it deserves. In the Madras Presidency there is a large area in which sugarcane is grown. Yet, Sir, I do not believe that the Agricultural Department has been able to improve or introduce a new and improved variety of sugarcane. I know that they have done some work but it has not resulted in any great improvement. That is one of the things which is very important but which has been neglected.

" Sir, millets like cumbu, thenai and ragi have not received the attention they deserve. These are crops on which the poor man lives. The improvement of these is one of the most important duties which falls on the Department of Agriculture. I do not think they have done much along these lines.

" Now turning to the educational side of agriculture, in answer to a question I recently put the Government told us that they have been so far able to train 469 students in the Agricultural College at Coimbatore. I want to mention here that to train one student, it costs the Government from five to seven thousand rupees per year. I have had the opportunity of being acquainted with a number of agricultural institutions here and elsewhere and nowhere have I known such an enormous cost for educating one student in a year. Besides, this excludes the capital expenditure on the Agricultural College at Coimbatore.

" There is also another very curious fact and it is this. A great majority of the students that have gone out of this college have been employed in Government service only. Sir, the proof of the pudding is in the eating and not in getting the cook a job. I would prefer to see these men employed as practical agriculturists and farmers rather than as Government servants. There ought to be enough students passing out of the Agricultural College to supply more than the demands of the Agricultural Department and it is important that these extra men should turn their attention to private farming which is after all the most important thing.

" The work that has been done in the agricultural middle schools is not worth mentioning at all and the Government could not be proud of it. There is one school at Thaliparamba and there they have turned out 60 students, out of which I am glad to note that at least 21 have gone out as agriculturists. But this is not real progress for the whole Presidency. This 21 is but a drop in the ocean. And here I also want to mention the enormous cost of training a middle school student in agriculture. For training these 60 students it has cost as much as Rs. 94,000. The school at Anakapalle has a very sorry tale to tell.

" I think the problem of agricultural education in the higher and also in the lower courses is one for which the department has not been able to find a solution.

" Sir, about the agricultural demonstration in the country I have got only one thing to say and that is that the demonstrations would be more useful if the demonstrators have had the experience of the farmer. They are usually non-agriculturists. They are merely students of agriculture having had no chance of leading the life of a farmer. To a question that was

asked recently by one of the members it was stated by the Government, that it may be taken that all the pupils are the sons of agriculturists. I do not think, Sir, that it can be taken like that and from what I have been able to find and from what I have heard from other Members of the Council, a great many of the students do not really represent the agricultural community at all. They may be sons of landholders or the sons of absentee landowners and for all I know none of them may be able to distinguish cumbu from thenai. People who knew nothing about agriculture whatsoever, Sir, are admitted into the Agricultural College. In my opinion the criterion for selection should be that they should be men with a practical knowledge of farming. They must be able to use a plough without any difficulty and do some practical work before they are taken into the Agricultural College. In the Agricultural College they are taught ordinary ploughing, cutting cholam, fodder, etc. I know that this is important but these are things which the student ought to know before entering the college. I wish to point out that this is the most important thing. If the department of Agriculture want to accomplish anything at all in this province the teachers of the college ought to be men who had been farmers at least for some time in their life. Sir, in one of the most important institutions in the United States of America, at the University of Illinois they make it a point that people who desire to have any connexion with the college should have at least ten years experience as practical farmers. Sir, farming is one of the most difficult professions. It is practised by a large majority of the population who have developed a wonderful efficiency and very nice economy. We cannot even realize it. How could we, we who smoke a cigar costing four annas whereas a man works all day to get 4 annas?

"One hon. Member referred to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The recommendations made by the Royal Commission if accepted and carried out by the Government will improve the lot of the agriculturist to a very great extent. The things that they have recommended have been urged a number of times in this House. But still they must carry weight as they come from an important body of men possessing practical knowledge of the profession of agriculture.

"I wish to refer to only one more point, that is, research. I want that the research side of the Agricultural department ought to be strengthened. Sir, research is one of the things that requires a large amount of patience, a large number of men and a large amount of time. It is said of the Germans who have done the greatest amount of research that they dive deepest, stay longest and bring the greatest amount of dirt. It is only after enormous amount of work that results are obtained in research. That shows that there is need for a very large number of men to work in this line. The work done so far in agricultural research is much. Yet a great deal remains to be done and it requires more effort and patience than that which has gone before. Research work in agriculture is one that requires a lot of time and co-ordination between the workers. For that work a regular army of workers is needed. The suggestion made by the Royal Commission does not permit any province in this country, certainly not this province, to be able to achieve that end. They say, you ought to have men who are paid very large salaries. They say you must have a Superior Provincial Agricultural Service on a grade much higher than the present Madras Agricultural Service. . ."

22nd March 1929]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the hon. Member will be in order in referring to research when he is seconding a motion which is to discuss the agricultural policy of the Government."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" They have made a provision in the budget for an appointment which comes under the grade of the Superior Provincial Agricultural Service evidently based on the recommendation made by the Royal Commission."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is the hon. Member censuring the making of that provision ? "

* Mr. NAGAN GOWDA :—" I want to say that the provision ought not to have been made and that that policy should not be adopted. The Lee Commission recommended that hereafter the Agricultural department ought to be indianized and the salaries reduced to the Provincial grade. Now, Sir, if the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission were to be given effect to, it would go against the recommendations of the Lee Commission, and it would cost the Government a great deal. I am referring to the appointment of the Oil Seed Specialist that has been recommended on a pay which is much more than that of the Madras Agricultural Service."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If the Government have accepted any of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission and have given effect to them in the budget proposals, the hon. Member will be perfectly in order ; but I do not remember that the Government stated that they have adopted any of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission as yet. That is my difficulty."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" Sir, if that is so, I would not say anything about that. Sir, in this research work they should employ men who have experience of practical agriculture. Unless the men who are posted to do research work know by personal experience the needs of the farmers I do not think they would be able to help Agricultural reform.

3-15 p.m.

" In summarizing I wish to say that we have not got the large number of breeding bulls necessary for the needs for the country. The same is the case with sheep also. In respect of the sugarcane and jaggery industry I find that the department has not been able to do much. For these reasons I support the motion of Mr. Karant."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question ' is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 18,83,700 for Agriculture by Rs. 100'."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the cut motion. Sir, the current year may be said to be a momentous one for agriculture which is the profession of the vast majority of the people of this province. The year is momentous because of the recent publication of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and also because the Government of India and the Provincial Governments are going to embark upon a policy of increased expenditure. My complaint is that. . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" This is a motion for censure and not an occasion for making suggestions or complaints or petitions."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, hitherto the Government continued to neglect the really national side of this national industry. For

instance, I would say that although the department of agriculture has done something for which one might feel thankful, I am afraid they have really suffered from not having a policy hitherto."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the hon. Member should take another opportunity to thank the Government."

*Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Anyhow, Sir, I would not withdraw the thanks I have given for the good work they have done. But my complaint is that they have no policy. Take, for instance, the sugarcane industry."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will be in order if he opposes the motion and thanks the Government for what they have done."

*Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In the case of the sugarcane industry, the department have evolved a breed suitable specially for Northern India—a drought-resisting variety—but they have not given sufficient attention to the various varieties that would be needed for use in Southern India with the result, I am afraid, that if the present policy is continued, one of the most useful industries in India by which many people make their living, viz., jaggery industry, will soon go out of our hands. Recently two or three people came from Java with the object, I am credibly informed, of trying to see whether they can dump their bounty-fed sugar in this Presidency to the tune of lakhs of rupees and thereby practically ruining the manufacture of jaggery as they have nearly ruined the profitable making of refined sugar here. I am told that they are now after jaggery because they find that they can make more profit out of jaggery export to India. Therefore, if the Agricultural department continues to neglect this aspect of Indian agriculture, viz., jaggery making, and takes a narrow view of it and concentrates on the drought-resisting varieties with a single eye to the area under Punjab canals, I am afraid another important industry will naturally go into other hands. Even as regards converting the juice into jaggery the department have not been able to introduce simple and improved methods and machinery.

" My next complaint is that the Agricultural department has not taken a comprehensive view of its relation with other departments. No agricultural operations can be carried on successfully unless the agriculturists find facilities in other departments as well. Take forests, for instance. Without going into the details of the forest administration I may say that unless the ryots have got cattle which is the very life of agriculture, what use have they for improved seeds, new ploughs, scientific manures and so on? Take again the question of credit. Unless the ryots have got ample and timely funds at their disposal for purchasing seeds, manure and appliances, how can they successfully cultivate the lands and increase the yield? Therefore, the department of Agriculture, or rather the agricultural industry is inseparably connected with many other departments of Government. I am afraid that hitherto the policy of the Agricultural department has not taken note of these things but has worked in splendid isolation. The hon. Minister simply jogs along and has not seen the inter-connexion of these departments with the result that at present the ryot who has only his half bowl of conjee to his credit stands to lose even that. (Dr. B. S. Mallayya: 'Add sugar to it'.) Even the result of the useful improvements effected so far has not reached the ryots. Very recently, no doubt,

22nd March 1929] [Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar]

they have gone in for demonstration vans. But, after having seen these vans recently, I must say—very probably owing to the limitations imposed upon them, they could not be much better—I may take the liberty of telling the hon. the Minister for Development that if he depends very much upon these vans for the regeneration of the chief industry in this province, he will be sadly disappointed. Sir, the improvements made by the department and by the Government at a great cost should be made to reach the humblest ryot in the far off corners of our province. The question is how that can be done. You have got demonstrators no doubt. But the small fixed travelling allowance which the Government allows per month is not enough inducement to make them visit the outlying rural areas. Therefore these demonstrators do the minimum amount of travelling necessary and remain content. This is very unsatisfactory. The improvements introduced by the departments should be carried to the very doors of the ryots and this can be done only if the Agricultural department works in conjunction with the Industries department and the Co-operative department. I am afraid that the co-ordination of these departments suggested in many agricultural conferences, in many panchayats' conferences and particularly in co-operative conferences has not been carried out by the Government. The great need of the hour is that the activities of the net-work of co-operative societies in the province—there are nearly 15,000 of them—should be co-ordinated with the activities of the Agricultural department and the good work of the Agricultural department taken to the very doors of the poor ryots along with facile credit. For, credit alone without knowledge of improved methods of agriculture will not save the ryots and, agricultural knowledge alone, without credit, will not save them either. It is a most elementary principle that there should be the most active and intimate co-operation between these two departments.

"Sir, of the numerous Europeans who come to this country, make their money and retire, it is rare indeed to come across one to whom India should feel grateful. One such rare man is a Scotchman, a hard-headed Scotchman Sir Daniel Hamilton who, in his retirement, has devoted his time and leisure and even money for the betterment of the Indian agriculturist. What is the latest thing which he has told us from the vast experience of his lifetime? He says that it is not enough if you increase the number of veterinary officers and agricultural demonstrators. It is not enough if you appoint 2,000 more co-operative inspectors or deputy registrars. None of these will be effective. You must, says Sir Daniel, give the ryot the knowledge and the consciousness that these officers exist for him and for him only. The ryots must be made to realize that the officers are their servants and available to them at their call. That knowledge can come only through intense propaganda. I may tell you, Sir, that the arrangements, or rather the lack of arrangements, which the department has just now got for this kind of propaganda are hopelessly inadequate. Much greater attention has to be paid to this thing. Otherwise all the vast sums that have been and are being spent on this department ever since its inception will be barren of results.

"Sir, the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture has drawn pointed attention to the research side of agriculture. I warn the Government that mere harping on research, however good it may be in advanced western countries, will not do in this country any immediate good. In our country the elementary things about agriculture such as the need for good

[Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar] [22nd March 1929

seeds, improved ploughs, selection of suitable crops, scientific manure, etc., have not been brought to the notice of the ryots. Even the information now in the possession of the department, information gained at great cost and readily available, has not been made the property of the ryot. When such is the case, what is the meaning of appointing more highly paid officers and concentrating greater attention on research ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already remarked that this is not the occasion to discuss the scope of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission. As far as I understand this Government have not adopted any of its recommendations and this is a censure motion."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In one other respect also I am afraid the department has not done its best. I refer to the question of manures. The department no doubt sometimes tinkers with it ; that is all. Recently it made experiments with the fermentation of vegetable rubbish and converting the same into a highly useful and valuable manure. There is a very useful system by which even the much-dreaded prickly-pear is rendered useful by disintegration, says Dr. Mallayya. I ask how many farmers and how many farms have adopted this simple system. Nobody except the people in the Coimbatore farm, I fear. When the demonstration vans were here I asked the trained agriculturist in charge whether he had any pamphlet on that system of manure conservation. He had none ; but showed me a very old leaflet on farm-yard manure. It was something published in the year 1892 or thereabout. He was unaware that the world has advanced since 1892. Take, for instance, another manure. We are now taking a good deal of interest in the prevention of the exportation of manurial materials such as bones, etc. What about the most important and the most abundant manure which now goes to waste and which can easily be turned to use as has been done in Japan and other countries—night-soil ? I admit it is no pleasing topic but, the fact is, if it is properly utilized, it will bring about the regeneration of our cultivation and yet nothing has been done in converting it into a useful manure. The other day I went to Coimbatore and asked the Agricultural College people whether anything had been done for utilizing night-soil as manure known as Pudrette. In the case of Poudrette, I am afraid no experiment has been undertaken. I am therefore constrained to charge the administration with neglect of this most important subject.

" Sir, I do not want to take any further time of the House, but I would urge that the department ought to be more alert than it has been in the past. Otherwise the foreign importer who, as we saw, began successfully with refined sugar and who has now his envious eyes on jaggery, will very soon catch the manure market as well with scientific manure. If scientific manure is imported more and more, it will mean a great drain on the national wealth besides the fact that some of these are actually injurious to the soil. I appeal to the Government to think of the ryot and the ryot alone and not of instituting higher research and so on which are more suited to advanced countries than to our own unfortunate famine-ridden province. With these words, I support the motion."

3-30 p.m. * Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, whenever suggestions are made from this side of the House with regard to the better management of the Agricultural department or for the improvement of agriculture, the recommendations of the Royal Commission are drawn attention to and we are told that

22nd March 1929] [Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar]

they are under the consideration of the Government. I do not know for how long this report will be under the consideration of the Government and what is to come out of it. I am afraid that the only result of that consideration will be that some more experts will be brought to India ostensibly for the purpose of conferring benefit to the agricultural people of this country but really for their (Englishmen's) own benefit.

"One of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission is that organic manures such as oil cakes and bones should be preserved in this country for the use of Indian agriculturists. The Director of Agriculture in his recent tours in Tanjore district is reported to have said that it is impossible to carry out the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission with regard to this matter and that oil cakes and bones should not be stopped from being exported to foreign countries. He is also reported to have said that the only course open to the Indian agriculturists is to use sulphate of ammonia and other foreign manures, and that this sulphate of ammonia cannot be used unless it is mixed up with green manure or farm-yard manure. From the views expressed by the Director of Agriculture it looks as if at the fag end of his official career, he is making propaganda for Brunner Mond Company and other foreign manufacturers who are manufacturing such kinds of manure as super-phosphate, etc., etc. I think that the most important recommendation of the Agricultural Commission is the preservation of the Indian manures, such as oil cakes and bones but these are still being allowed to be exported to foreign countries.

"Again, Sir, some lorries have been improvised for the purpose of carrying the results of the experiments in agriculture to the ryots. Recently we saw some of these lorries. They came from Coimbatore to Madras and we saw them demonstrating. I ask hon. Members of this House through you, Sir, what benefit they have derived by seeing these demonstration cars. I may tell you that these cars came from Coimbatore to Madras only through trunk roads. Really the ryot does not know anything about these cars. I know that a demonstration car was brought to Poonamalle recently but it is only the Sub-Magistrate and other officials and lawyers that had a look at it and not the ryots. I submit this is not the way to carry the benefits of research to the ryots. The only way to carry the results of researches of the Agricultural department to the home of the ryots is by means of printing leaflets in their own vernaculars and distributing the same and by starting agricultural demonstration farms in central places in every taluk of this province. In this connexion I may tell this House one incident which happened in connexion with the proposed opening of an Agricultural Demonstration Farm in Chingleput district. In the Chingleput district the department wanted to open a demonstration farm. They inspected various places and finally pitched upon a place called Dandimitta in Ponneri taluk for the purpose. The Assistant Director of Agriculture wrote to the owner of the lands that Government were going to open an agricultural farm on his lands and that they had selected his lands for that purpose, but that the farm could be opened only when the road connecting the village to the trunk road was laid out. Sir, the place selected is only two miles from the road and there is a cart-track connecting the village to the road. I have travelled along this cart-track in my car and found the road quite suitable for travelling and still the Director of Agriculture has written to the owner of the land that the farm could be opened only when the road was laid out. But, Sir, the place I am

referring to was selected by the President, District Board, for rural reconstruction work a long time ago and a road was sanctioned to be laid out some four years back, but the new President of the District Board who complained in his administration report of want of co-operation of the Agricultural department would not construct that road because of personal prejudices or party prejudices. I ask the hon. the Minister whether the Agricultural department is going to wait till Doomsday for the President to lay out that road. I say this is not the way to sympathize with the Indian agriculturists. In season and out of season the Government are saying on the floor of this House that they are sympathizing with the poor agriculturists. I ask whether that is the way in which they show their sympathy. I beg to support the motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before the discussion proceeds, I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether any of the proposals of the Agricultural Commission's report are given effect to by making provisions for them in the budget. The Leader of the Opposition brings to my notice that when this cut was being circulated to the Members of Government, the hon. Minister and some Members of the Finance Committee wanted to incorporate in the budget some of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission but that the Finance Committee rejected them and that they have been included in the budget figures. I want to know whether that is the case in order to find out the relevancy of the discussion if a Member refers to the recommendation of the Agricultural Commission."

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" None of the proposals have been given effect to. With regard to next year, some of the figures are based on the recommendation of the Agricultural Commission."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sorry I excluded from the discussion any reference to the Royal Commission's report."

* Mr. C. E. WOOD :—" Mr. President, Sir, I will confine my remarks to opposing what my hon. Friend Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar has said on the question of the export of manures when supporting this motion. I regret I came in only in time to hear that portion of his speech. He was bitterly opposed to any export of raw bones, groundnut cake or fish guano.

" I fear the hon. Member has not been reading recent literature on this problem. It has been shown, fairly conclusively—I think by the Government of India—that it is not yet in India's interests to prohibit export.

" When considering this matter from the point of view of the agriculturist, it is necessary to try and lose sight of the name of the article and to think of it only in terms of units of nitrogen or phosphoric acid as the case may be.

" Taking bones as an example, in exporting these we are exporting nitrogen and phosphoric acid but foreign countries are buying these bones for the manufacture of gelatine and glue and are prepared to pay more for them than we can afford to give here for them as manures.

" Experiments in Madras have shown that it is not worth our while to retain them even for the manufacture of glue, as the consumption of glue is not sufficiently large.

" In place of these units of nitrogen and phosphoric acid which we export as bones we can import a cheaper form of nitrogen and phosphoric acid and one which is better from the agricultural point of view.

22nd March 1929] [Mr. C. E. Wood]

"Surely it is better for us to let the bones go to be made into glue and gelatine and to buy in their place a cheaper and more efficient manure.

"Then about oil-cake, this is taken by foreign countries who extract further quantities of oil and use the cake for fodder. As a matter of fact, very little goes out of the country and until we need more there is nothing to be gained by stopping it.

"As regards fish guano, this is produced in course of manufacture of fish oil and is made in such large quantities in a normal season that the country cannot yet use it all. If its export were stopped at the present moment, such action would bring ruin upon many poor fisher-folk on the Malabar Coast who would no longer be able to pursue their industry of fish oil production. Any hon. Member here from Malabar will bear me out when I say that the fish oil industry on the West Coast would be ruined by any action stopping the export of the guano.

"Later, by all means, consider putting restrictions on export, when the demand in the country for the guano as manure is large enough, but at present such action would produce great hardship.

"I hope I have explained myself to the hon. Member who spoke; after all, it is just a matter of commonsense to sell these manures if others can be bought more cheaply."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Though, Sir, I agree on many points with my European Friends, I am sorry these are some of the cardinal points on which we must differ. We have been always asking for the conservation of raw material in this country by preventing their export to foreign countries by high export tariff with a view to prevent these things being converted into fine manufactured goods and imported back into this country and sold at a very high price with a view to prevent unemployment in countries other than our own. Our object in always asking for high import duty and export duty is simply to give employment to a larger number of men in this country."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. I think on this important debate it is better only to develop arguments as far as they are connected with the question of agriculture. If we really get into the wider question, the motion may get out of its real limitations and the whole debate may launch upon wider questions."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"No, Sir, I may say that our Friend, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, referred to the question of manures and the difficulty of the ordinary ryot in getting them. I will come presently to the difficulty of the ordinary ryot in getting good manure. It was pointed out that these materials are being exported to foreign countries, and they are converted into manufactured goods there and are brought here again and sold at a high price. To this Mr. Wood pointed out that this view was wrong. I am only maintaining that from the agriculturists' point of view these things should be conserved in this country itself. I know that a manure manufactory is working very near Coimbatore and it is doing very good work supplying manure generally to planters and to some extent to the agriculturists also.

3-45 p.m.

"Therefore, instead of exporting this raw material, which can be easily converted into manure by other countries, if the Government either start factories themselves for manufacturing manure or help the manufacture of raw

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [22nd March 1929

materials into finished products by our own people, it will be very good. Therefore, as one owning a very large extent of lands and one who is interested in this question of manure, I may say it is very desirable that, under no circumstances whatever, should anything capable of being converted into manure be exported.

" Reference was specifically made by Mr. Wood to fish guano. Probably Mr. Wood thought that he was making his point stronger by referring to this. I shall give an instance to meet his point. I own a number of coconut topes for which I use fish guano manure ; some years ago it was being sold at about Rs. 80 per ton. I do not know exactly the market price of fish guano to-day. But on account of exports, I am not able to procure one ton even for Rs. 180. I am not now able to manure my coconut tope with that particular manure. The direct question that has to be considered is whether this fish guano should be exported. It may be said by some hon. Members that the people in the West Coast who manufacture fish guano will now get better prices. These poor people are in the hands of big companies. It is these big companies that are making huge profits on account of high prices ; and the fishermen themselves are getting very little and on account of the heavy storm last year in the West Coast, they got practically nothing. From the agricultural point of view, we want more manure. There is good deal of competition ; the population is increasing ; we have no more lands to be brought under cultivation ; we have been developing more and more the existing lands themselves. But unfortunately, owing to failure of timely rains, our difficulties have increased ; our lands have become more barren and less yielding ; therefore we want more manure. Oil-seeds and punnac that are capable of being converted into manure are being exported. It does not require much work or a large factory to convert oil-seeds into manure. We have got our own factories for this purpose in our own places. If only a little encouragement is given, there will be more factories for preparing manure from oil-seeds. Since wagon loads and ship loads of oil-seeds, including groundnuts, are now being exported to Europe, we are deprived of the chances of getting that punnac and manure. In return we get very costly oils from Europe. The punnac is converted into chemical manures. All these important industries are in the hands of Europeans. They are also patronized by the higher officers of the Government. I do not think that even the highest authorities of the Agricultural department can contradict me when I say that, on account of this difficulty, our agriculturists have not yet begun to use manure to any large extent and that the chemical manures have not yet become popular on account of these difficulties. We do not conserve our raw materials. It is the first duty of the Government, if they really care for the interests of the ryots, to see that we get the best manure at the cheapest price by preventing, by all possible ways, the export of raw materials to foreign countries."

* Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai :—" Mr. President, Sir if I rise and want to speak on the subject, it is only to refute some of the points raised by my hon. Friends Messrs. Karant and Nagan Gowda. Of course, there are others who know more on this subject My duty now is to refute certain points. My hon. Friend, Mr. Karant, was objecting to the increased expenditure under this head. He was objecting to the provision that has been made for increasing the number of demonstrators and for appointing one Deputy Director of Agriculture for each district. (Mr. K. R. Karant : ' No, Sir.') Increased

22nd March 1929] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

provision has been made under those heads; I fail to understand his saying 'no' at this stage. One of the objections was that there should not be a deputy director of Agriculture for each district. One of the ways by which this important industry can be developed is by the provision of a deputy director of Agriculture for each district. As a matter of fact, last year and the year before, discussion has proceeded on that footing. All sections of the House have been urging that the provision of a deputy director for two or three districts is hardly satisfactory; all have been urging that the Government should be pleased to appoint a deputy director for each district (Voices: 'Question') and to increase the number of assistant directors also. There has always been a demand in this House for the increase of the number of demonstrators. Provision has been made in this year's budget for increasing the number of deputy directors, assistant directors and demonstrators. If objection is taken now, I do not know where we are. I feel, Sir, that this year a beginning of progress and a policy of advance has been inaugurated and made. Everybody recognized, and even my hon. Friend, Mr. Karant, must recognize that this budget provides only for the initial expenditure under a policy whose fruition we shall have at the end of ten years. A progressive policy which is to be carried on for ten years has been begun this year and it is no use saying that there has been no advance at all in this policy. As a matter of fact, Sir, if I should make a complaint, it should be that there has not been enough increase of expenditure under this head compatible with the improvement of the industry, compatible with the fruits which we expect out of this industry.

"I was really at a loss to understand what the meaning of my hon. Friend's statement was. I am not one of those persons who claim the monopoly of wisdom. But I do feel that what we urge on this head is quite correct, with all respect to his knowledge and experience. I do not claim to be a Doctor of Agriculture; but all the same, doctor as he is, he should be the first to welcome the provision for research in the higher branch of Agriculture. Perhaps he meant that that provision has been made for a non-Indian. I do not see anything in the budget to warrant the assumption that it is intended only for a non-Indian. If there should only be an Indian who is capable of discharging those duties, I think the Minister will hardly have any objection to take him in . . ."

* Mr. R. Nagan Gowda:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir."

* The hon. the President:—"The hon. Member will wait."

* Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai:—"Mr. Nagan Gowda was referring to the fact that all the people turned out of the Agricultural College should not be appointed as demonstrators but that they should become farmers. I do not understand what he meant by that. Does he mean that the Agricultural College should turn out students, but that the department should not entertain them at all, and that only sons of agriculturists or people who own lands, alone should have the benefit of education in the Agricultural College? The Government should certainly welcome the sons of rich landlords. But I do not know really how many sons of rich men and rich landlords would get educated in the Agricultural College and be benefited by it. But at the same time, the department will be ill-advised not to carry on propaganda, not to carry on experiments by means of demonstration farms

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [22nd March 1929

by employing these men who are equipped for this work by training and experience. I do not really know if the people who are turned out of the college and employed in the demonstration farms are not working like farmers. I do not know what magic is there in a born farmer which is not found in one becoming a farmer by adoption as is the case with these demonstrators. I know of one excellent instance in my own district. There is a farm in Lalgudi in Trichinopoly. I am here to testify to the great value of the work which this experimental demonstration farm is doing in and round that place. As a matter of fact, so much has been done that people in and round that place have come and asked for more and more demonstrators being employed in that farm and in other farms which they are willing to start.

"In this connexion I wish to say that some advance in the agricultural policy might certainly be made if the Agricultural department is not divorced from the Co-operative department; for, in the case I mentioned, it is the Co-operative department that is running that farm and it is the Agricultural department that is helping it with a demonstrator. I should have well understood if such a suggestion had been made. As a matter of fact I am here to testify to the great and useful work which these demonstrators are doing to the country, and I feel that the agricultural progress of the country will be given a set-back if any curtailment is made in their number. I wish, Sir, that more and more demonstrators are appointed and that more and more demonstrators are spread all over the country and asked to work under deputy directors of agriculture. A deputy director of Agriculture cannot go on supervising the work of hundreds of demonstrators.

"Coming to sugarcane, it was stated that the Agricultural department is neglecting the growth of sugarcane. Here again I speak from personal knowledge. In the same taluk of Lalgudi a different and improved type of sugarcane, known as Fiji type or species, is being grown. If it is grown there, it is due not to the initiative or enthusiasm of the ryot or landlord but it is due entirely to the knowledge which this department has brought home to him. The ryot is now able to know how much more he can profit by the adoption of this new species of which he was not aware previously. (A voice: 'All these facts are correct.') If all these facts are correct, I do not think there is any force or argument at all behind this censure motion. I do not know if it is only a formal censure motion. If it is meant that either the Minister or the department is following a policy which is not intended for the progress of the country, then I should like to differ from that view. What I am saying is that this is the first year in which a progressive policy spreading over ten years has commenced. I think we will not be doing our duty by the great industry if we come forward and denounce the policy that is now pursued. With these words I beg to oppose the motion."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I did not say anything like what my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, said. I only said that that officer should not be placed in the grade in which he has been put, which, I presume, has been done according to the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. We want specialists in the service and we want a great many of them.

"Another remark that he made was that I did not want that the students that pass out of the Agricultural College should be appointed as demonstrators

22nd March 1929] [Mr. R. Nagan Gowda]

I did not say anything like that. I said that we ought to turn out many more students not only for appointment in the department but also to go out to the country and live as agriculturists."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member from Trichinopoly stated that I was against more demonstrators being appointed. That is a statement which I never made.

" He further stated that I was against having deputy directors for each district. Government themselves do not propose such a thing. I do not think that he has properly read the brief given to him by the Government." 4 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The last sentence of the hon. Member does not constitute personal explanation at all." (Laughter.)

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am very glad to associate myself with this motion. My hon. Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai was saying that we are against any improvement whatsoever and that we are against this department altogether. The censure motion is intended to show that the present budget does not satisfy us. Perhaps my hon. Friend has not seen the papers except those that were placed in his hands. Of course as a good lawyer he argued the case and I do admit it, but the papers will show that there is no appreciable increase in the number of demonstrators at all. I will read the figures later on. What is now intended by Government is to improve the pay of the present men, to get more highly paid men and research workers. This Council has been expressing the opinion that to have the present knowledge made available to the ryot, it is necessary to have more demonstrators to educate the masses. That is exactly what is wanting in the proposal. My hon. Friend must have mistaken the present proposals as great improvements and that the agricultural world is going to change in ten years. It is not so. It is only intended to improve the pay of those who are already over-paid. Provision for agricultural improvements is not sufficient. This provision includes only twenty lakhs for agriculture, ten lakhs for veterinary, eleven lakhs for co-operation, and four lakhs for demonstration. Demonstration includes in its turn experimental farms, and cotton improvement and if these two are taken away, there are only two lakhs and odd left for demonstration purposes. With regard to demonstration, last year we had 166 demonstrators and now they propose to have 174, that is, eight more demonstrators than before for the additional four lakhs they require now. This Council demanded last year that more demonstrators should be appointed and it was assured on behalf of the Government that more demonstrators would be provided. Of course I agree that the number of demonstrators and supervising staff also may be increased and that all the money should be spent on supervising demonstrators alone. Now, the demonstrators, as they are, are paid very liberally. These people do not go to the ryot and explain to him his difficulties. If they are paid Rs. 200, Rs. 225 and Rs. 250, they are not likely to go to the farms and explain to the ryot and ease his difficulties. We want moderately paid demonstrators, any number of them, and to supervise them, you may have other people also if you like. What is proposed to be done now is to appoint a deputy director on a scale of Rs. 350 to Rs. 1,250, another deputy director—that is, for supervision, superintendence as it is called—on a pay of Rs. 350 to Rs. 1,250 ; four assistant directors on Rs. 250 to Rs. 750 ; eight clerks on a pay of from Rs. 125 to Rs. 150 ; and

eight peons. That is what they propose to do. So, it is now clear that they are going to give us eight more demonstrators at a cost of four lakhs. All other highly paid gentlemen proposed are not wanted at all. There are no demonstrators whom they would supervise. The whole scheme that was based on the proposals made by the Royal Commission is this. The scheme was explained by the Director to the Finance Committee and the whole matter was looked into. Our belief is that this country is not going to be benefited by the adoption of that scheme in any way. This Council again and again expressed the opinion that we wanted more demonstrators to help the ryot. It is very fortunate that our Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai has got very good experience in his district. We all hope that we shall have such experience. He did not say that it was on account of these demonstrators or deputy directors or assistant directors that these new things were introduced. He said on the other hand, that it was due to the co-operative work that is done there with the assistance of a person lent by the department for helping the farm. That may be quite correct and we do not dispute that fact. What we object to is the appointment of research workers, deputy directors and assistant directors, but if you appoint a lot of demonstrators, we have no objection whatsoever.

" Last year, when similar questions were raised, it was stated on behalf of the Government that the increased staff such as agricultural demonstrators and officers of that sort would have to deal directly with the masses. The hon. Mr. Krishnan Nayar: while on this side, also appealed to the Government to do something in that direction. He said: 'It must be brought home to the agriculturists that the experiments are for their good and in order that these things are brought home to them, it is necessary that the department should employ a very large number of agricultural inspectors to show them the utility of scientific manure and scientific methods of agriculture.' That is what Mr. Krishnan Nayar said. Again, on behalf of the Government, it was also stated at the time of the budget for 1927–28 that they wanted a vast army of demonstrators who would go and teach these things to the people. Now, the vast improvements that are proposed this year are not of this sort. What is asked for is only an increase in the number of directors and deputy directors, research workers, etc. Now they want to go back on their promise. Is this to find place for Lord Salisbury's boys, that is to find employment for experts, research workers or directors or deputy directors from Home. That means the whole money that is given to this department—as is done in the case of other departments—is spent as salaries to people who are at the top and they will not allow anybody to go to the ryot to improve his condition. That has been the policy that has been persistently pursued by this Government.

" When we say that manure should not go out of the country my friend Mr. Wood says, 'Nothing of the sort; you are wanting in commonsense; you must know how to send away your valuable things to other places.' The policy that was advocated by my hon. Friend Mr. Wood has been followed for the last 150 years under the guidance of the benign Government and we have come to this state. Men cannot earn more than 25 or 27 rupees a year. That is the estimate of the Government itself. We want to prevent exploitation in any case. My friend says: 'Oh, if you stop the exportation of oils, what about the poor workmen; who will feed them? Surely they will suffer.' He thinks that we are wanting very much in commonsense. I

submit, Mr. President, the Westerners also are very much wanting in commonsense in not exporting their raw materials to other countries. Government want to help export of raw materials from this country to England. The English merchants are here only for that purpose and for no other purpose. When we ask the Government to prevent the manures going out, the hon. the Minister, times without number, states 'We have not yet considered this Royal Commission report; it will be considered later on and we will come to a decision.' That is why the hon. the President thought that the Royal Commission report was not considered by this Government. But, now for purposes of the improvement of the pay of this department they have considered it. They lose no time whenever they want to find jobs for certain men. When we want a right thing to be done, they always say they have to consider. When this Council asked for more demonstrators it was given out, on behalf of the Government, that an army of demonstrators would be appointed. Is appointing eight demonstrators giving an army of them and does it justify spending four lakhs for other purposes which this Council never wanted? Is this the proper way of putting up proposals? Whatever may be the intentions of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, I do not think he would consent to these proposals. Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai and I are at one on the question that there should be improvement in agriculture, that the knowledge that is available should be taken to the ryot first and that he should be helped constantly. Why the research work they are going to do should be done in Madras, I do not understand. I am quite sure that these people are not going to do research work that will benefit the people, because the ryots in this country do not even know the rudiments of agriculture. It is on this account that we move this motion and I hope hon. Members would support it.

4-15 p.m.

"It was feared in some quarters that this is a censure motion on the Minister, but now I think they will be welcoming it as this only strengthens the hon. the Minister as Minister (Hear, hear). We wanted to oppose his policy, and, after all, we think we will have to deal with him only for this term or perhaps for this year. (Laughter.) What we want is that more men should go to the villagers and tell them how to do their work so that we may get more yield from the land. Our object is really to strengthen the hands of the hon. the Minister for Development. The hon. the Minister for Public Health, Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar, told us this morning how helpless they are. There is the mother-in-law in the hon. the Finance Member; for, unless he consents to their proposals, they cannot do anything. (Laughter.) Then there is what I may term the husband's sister or the sister-in-law (laughter) in the Secretary of the departments; for, however much the Ministers can talk in the Council, they cannot go against the suggestions of the Secretaries; so in the office they are forced to be quiet and docile. That being the difficulty the Ministers are labouring under, this motion is intended only to strengthen their hands."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I may suggest to the hon. Member that the grant is to be put to the vote of the House at 4-40 and I hope he will finish his speech in time to give the hon. the Minister an opportunity to reply."

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Sir, I have nothing more to add."

* The hon Mr. M R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Sir, it was said on the floor of this House that Government have no definite policy in regard agriculture.

Sir, a year ago, the Director of Agriculture was asked to frame the policy of his department for the next few years. He has drawn up a programme for ten years, and this is almost on a par with the recommendations of the Royal Commission. (Swarajists: 'Perhaps copied from the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture.') Even before the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture was published, the proposals had been called for. (Interruption from the Swarajists.)"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. I want to listen to the speech of the hon. the Minister as I am interested in that subject."

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Sir, the main objection against the proposals suggested was that most of the items are concerned with the superior officers and not with the subordinate officers. I must submit that that is not the case. Some of the recommendations of the Director of Agriculture regarding superior posts are not included in the budget. Mr. Swami said that we have provided for two deputy directors. I am afraid there is provision made for only one. Perhaps he had in mind also the Oil-seeds Specialist. Then he took objection to the grant of about fifty thousand rupees for the proposed additional establishment. Perhaps he did not note that most of the proposed posts are in the subordinate ranks.

" Then, Mr. Nagan Gowda was saying that we should not recruit men for the Imperial grade. As to this I should say that we recruit men only for the subordinate posts. I must add that the assistant directors and the deputy director are all engaged in agriculture. There are demonstrators in large numbers and they are to carry on experiments in ryots' lands. (Hear, hear.) And to supervise their work we have district officers. That is our idea. Then Mr. Karant was saying that the district officers are paid only low salary. I may tell him that they are started on Rs. 250 and that we have made provision for the appointment of four district officers to relieve men in the most congested areas. Then he spoke about the small number of demonstrators. Let me tell him that Government are always ready to appoint more, as there is demand for them. (Hear, hear.) We have made provision for eight demonstrators, because we hope to get only seven demonstrators in the course of the year from the colleges."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Why can't you admit more students ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Till recently we were admitting 20 students, and now we have increased the number of admission to 40, and, if there is accommodation and if the other conditions are favourable, we will increase the strength further. Mr. Karant referred to the Reorganization scheme. I have to submit that the proposals have been carefully considered by the Government. And, after all, we have asked only for a small sum ; a sum of Rs. 72,000 for an important subject like agriculture is not very much.

" With regard to the problem of improvement of live-stock, we have not progressed far ; we are still in the initial stages, and we hope to solve the problem early. I will bear in mind what the hon. Members of this House have suggested. Mr. Nagan Gowda asked why the cultivation of millet is not carried on in the Adoni farm. I may inform the hon. Member that there is difficulty in finding a suitable place for that ; for in the experiments made till now we failed to get water at a certain depth. With regard to the

22nd March 1929] [Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar]

training of sons of farmers and landlords Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai has told us that it is being done satisfactorily. (Opposition cries of 'No, no.') He said that nothing has been done with regard to the improvement of ragi and cholam. I am glad to say that in the Coimbatore agricultural farm we have two stations for ragi and cholam.

"Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar emphasized the need for agricultural co-operative societies. We are trying to start as many of them as possible, and already we have some of them, as for instance, the Sivagnanam Agricultural Co-operative Society at Lalgudi, which is doing admirable work."

Mr. C V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"What do you do with the products of the farms ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"These farms are intended for experimental work and they are not run on a commercial basis."

"Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar wanted some agricultural farms in the Chingleput district and referred to the difficulty in opening a farm in the Ponneri taluk for want of a road. He asked us to make the district board open the road. I cannot understand how the Development Department can compel the district board.

"With regard to the export of manures and oil cakes, as I have already said, the matter is still under consideration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Why not stop the large stock of manures being exported from the country ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"That is a controversial matter and it requires very careful consideration. With regard to grazing that was also discussed in the provincial committee, and the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Director of Agriculture have been asked to send their report on it I need not say anything more in this connexion except that we are trying to do our best in the Department of Agriculture, and any useful suggestion that might be put forward by hon. Members, Government will be very glad to consider. With these remarks, I propose that the grant be put to the vote of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, if I rise to speak it is with a view to join with the previous speakers and if possible to strengthen the hands of the Minister. (Hear, hear.) I entirely agree with the previous speakers that the budget provision for an important subject like agriculture is totally inadequate. It is only 18 lakhs. I think this House would have been immensely pleased if instead of 18 lakhs we had a demand for 180 lakhs. (Hear, hear.) When Government can find 8 lakhs of rupees for extra police for traffic regulation, it seems unjust that they should allot only 18 lakhs for such an important subject like agriculture on which 70 per cent of the population depend for their very existence. Hence it needs no arguments to say that the operations of the Agricultural department should be extended very considerably."

Khan Bahadur KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"What did you do when you were Minister ?"

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I was not in charge of that subject at all. Wait till you hear me further ?"

[22nd March 1929

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I request the hon. Member not to mind the interruptions in view of the fact that he has only a few minutes left ?"

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Some members that preceded me stated that nothing has been done for the improvement of sugarcane, ragi, millets, etc. I have had occasion, Sir, to visit several of the experimental farms in the Presidency, including the central farm at Coimbatore. At the latter place, Sir, as well as at Samalkot and Anakapalle, a very large amount of valuable work has been done for the improvement of sugarcane. Similar work has been done for ragi at Anakapalle, and for millets both at Anakapalle and Coimbatore. I recognize that an enormous amount of work has to be done to bring agricultural knowledge to the numerous villages scattered all over the Presidency. This cannot be done unless the operations of the Agricultural department are extended very considerably. That is why, Sir, we consider the present budget provision entirely unsatisfactory.

4-30 p.m.

" I should not however, as I said, take this vote as a vote of censure on the Minister. If I join in the vote at all it is rather with the view of strengthening the hands of the Minister."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I am really pleased to see the Members of the Opposition coming in to help the Ministry. It shows how interested they are in the progress of agricultural development in this province. I am sure they also realize that we are as interested in the agricultural development of this province as they are. My hon. Friend in charge of the portfolio is himself a practical agriculturist, owner of large areas of land in the Kulittalai taluk, one of the wet taluks of the Trichinopoly district. So he is as much interested in the agricultural development of this province as the hon. Members opposite. I know it is very easy for people speaking from the Opposition as my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar to say that they would have liked to see 180 lakhs put in the agricultural budget. But the budget provision has increased this year from about 19 lakhs to about 21 lakhs, if they will observe the figures (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar : 'Appah !'). I hear my hon. Friend from Coimbatore crying out 'Appah.' I do not know what he means by it. I suppose he means that it is not enough. But I think we have to cut our coat according to the cloth we possess, and if recurring expenditure is to grow in the way that my hon. Friend wants, we will have to think of further taxation, and I am sure my hon. Friends opposite will be the first to raise their hands in horror if the Government propose any additional taxation in this province. I know as well as my hon. Friends opposite that it is not possible to raise any further taxation in this province—I mean any more than we have done now. And considering the circumstances in which we are placed, I think the budget provision for the Agricultural department is as much as could be had and as much as could be spent. As my hon. Colleague the Minister for Development has explained, the Director of Agriculture has submitted a programme for the next ten years and the provision made in this year's budget has carried out those proposals. And those proposals which my hon. Friend has explained are in accordance with the recommendations of Royal Commission on Agriculture. I heard my hon. Friend from Coimbatore saying that the Government are always replying that all these proposals are under consideration. In this matter we have passed the stage of consideration. Further, the proposals made are in accordance with the

recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The Director of Agriculture has taken up the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and has tried to do what he can to put them into the budget and see that development takes place on the recommendations of the said Commission.

"Another feature of the agricultural budget I would like to point out to hon. Members is the provision of these touring vans which will bring home to agriculturists the improvements that have been made by the specialists in the Agricultural College at Coimbatore. These improvements are going to be taken to the very doors of the agriculturists so that they could find out the advantage of improved methods of agriculture. Especially in a conservative country like ours where the tenant farmer is liable to think of his own methods as the best and finds it hard to give them up, it is only by demonstrations and by increasing the number of demonstrators he can be made to realize the advantages of improved methods. I think this increase in the number of demonstrators has been provided for in the budget. When that is the case I think it is no use to ask the Government to spend a crore and more on agriculture. I do not think, situated as we are, it would be possible to spend such a large amount. The time will perhaps come when the agriculturists will improve their condition in such a way that it will be possible to spend more money in order to bring about further development. But situated as we are, I think the Government have done what they could in order to bring about better conditions for the agriculturists in this province. (A voice: 'Mutual admiration.') My hon. Friend cries out 'mutual admiration.' I think all mutual admiration is confined more to the party to which he belongs than to this side of the House.

"They spoke about specialists. I am glad to hear my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar saying that the work carried on in sugarcane and in millets is work that has been well done, and that it is going to improve the condition of these crops for the benefit of the agriculturists. In that sense also I contend that the Government have done through their Agricultural Department what they could to develop the condition of the agriculturists in this province. Another complaint is that the College of Agriculture is not producing theright type of men for agricultural demonstration. I do not think the fault can be laid at the doors of the Government. The fault is due to the difficulty in getting the sons of agriculturists to take interest in agricultural education. (A voice: 'Why not?') My hon. Friend in the Opposition cries out 'Why not?'. It is because of the apathy of the families themselves. I know during the last two or three years the department has tried to get into the Agricultural College sons of agriculturists. In spite of those attempts they are finding it difficult to get such men into the college. But things are improving and I am sure a time will come when the graduates of the Agricultural College coming from the agricultural communities will try to do what they can to bring about better conditions in the villages. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'Close the Law College.') My hon. Friend for the City cries out 'Close the Law College.' I am glad he is coming to that opinion because I thought hon. Members opposite are very keen on making the number of graduates greater than what it is now. I have always been of that opinion, but I do not think the party opposite is of that opinion. (Voices: 'No, no.') I am afraid my hon. Friend from the City will have to leave that party if he is of that

opinion. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: 'You are misreading it.') There is no question of misreading the objects of the party, nor am I misleading. I know that party too well to misread. So, under these circumstances, Mr. President, I contend that the Government have done what they could in order to better the condition of agriculturists in this province."

The motion was put and declard lost. Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao demanded a poll and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

1. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai
2. Mr. P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
3. ,, K. Koti Reddi
4. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
5. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
6. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
7. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
8. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
9. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
10. Mr. L. K. Tulasiram.
11. ,, K. V. R. Swami
12. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
13. Dr. B. S. Mallayya.
14. Mr. K. R. Karant.
15. ,, C. Obi Reddi.
16. Mr. A. Parasurama Rao.
17. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
18. ,, P. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu.
19. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
20. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
21. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
22. ,, K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
23. ,, Meera Ravuttar Bahadur K. P. V. S. Muhammad.
24. ,, C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
25. Diwan Bahadur R. N Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
26. Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
27. ,, R. Nagan Gowda.

Noes

1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
2. ,, Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
3. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
5. ,, Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
6. ,, Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar.
7. ,, Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Mr. Hilton Brown.
9. ,, H. A. Watson.
10. ,, C. A. Souter.
11. ,, S. H. Slater.
12. ,, A. McG. C. Tampoe.
13. ,, C. W E. Cotton.
14. ,, V. Ch. John.
15. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
16. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur.
17. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar.
18. ,, A. B. Shetty.
19. ,, J. Bheemayya.
20. ,, R. Foulkes.
21. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
22. The Zamindar of Singampatti.
23. Mr. J. Kuppuswami.
24. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
25. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
26. ,, K. Krishnan.
27. ,, N. Siva Raj.
28. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.
29. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
30. ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nadar.
31. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
32. ,, S. Venkiah.
33. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
34. Mr. W. O. Wright.
35. ,, F. E. James.
36. ,, S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
37. ,, U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
38. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
39. Mr. G. R. Premayya.
40. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
41. Mr. Ramjee Rao.
42. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
43. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
44. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.
45. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
46. ,, T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
47. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.
48. Khan Sahib T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
49. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
50. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi.
51. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

Ayes 27. Noes 51.

The motion was lost.

The demand was then put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

22nd March 1929]

DEMAND XXIV—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that Government be granted a sum of not exceeding Rs. 10·42 lakhs under Demand XXIV—Civil Veterinary Services.*' "

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 10,40,400 for Civil Veterinary Services be reduced by Rs. 100*'

" to censure the veterinary policy of the Minister. In doing so, I want to make a few remarks. I think that the veterinary services in the Presidency in the rural parts are quite insufficient and that no real progress has been made in this year's budget as compared with that of last year. Out of a total new expenditure of about a lakh of rupees this year which we find in the appendix to the budget memorandum, only about Rs. 12,000 are intended for new dispensaries. I find, Sir, that the needs of these veterinary services are very great. It is found that a great deal of the debts of the ryots in the villages are due to the deaths of cattle. In the latest year under report we find that the death of cattle was the largest since 1910. In the year 1927-28 76,000 cattle died and even valuing each head at an approximate rate of Rs. 50 each, the loss to the ryots in one year would be about 38 lakhs of rupees. I found in many villages which I have visited that really there is no veterinary service at all during the times of rinderpest and other epidemic diseases.

4-45 p.m.

" Therefore there is a great need for strengthening the service. But we find there has been no increase at all. One reason assigned by the Government is that there are no hands available. I think it is up to the Government to increase the provision in the Veterinary College or to give better prospects so that people might come from outside in large numbers. It is not gratifying to hear that there are no hands available for service in such a vital matter. The Minister was pleased to say in reply to the general debate that he was considering the question of revising the salaries of these veterinary officers. I find that during the next year in the Education department the pay and prospects of the subordinate services will be increased. That is a welcome sign, though I think it is inadvisable to deal with departments in this manner, without dealing with the services as a whole. Anyhow I feel that this service is one which cannot make much money by outside practice as in the case of people who are in the Medical department. They get very little private practice and the salary given to them is very meagre. If the Government want some contentment and satisfaction in the service they ought to improve the salary and prospects of these men.

" One further point that I wish to touch is the question of the course in the Veterinary College. I am told that in 1927 the Government considered the question of extending the course to four years. But all at once, for what reason nobody knows, that has been dropped. It is feared that the Government are not sympathetic towards the people and do not wish to give the students proper training for four years and give them better status. I think it is up to the Government to take action in the matter."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I second it, Sir."

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Sir, I have listened to the remarks of the hon. Member very carefully. I have nothing more to say than what I have said at the time of the general discussion of the budget. In

regard to the dearth of veterinary dispensaries, I have already said on a previous occasion that we have not got enough trained hands in the Presidency. Last year, Government sanctioned the opening of twelve more dispensaries, but owing to want of hands, we were able to open only seven dispensaries.

"With regard to the training of more men, we have just increased the number of stipends in the college from 15 to 30; and in the course of a few years, if more students are forthcoming, we will be glad to make a further move in the matter.

"With regard to the pay of the veterinary assistants, I have already promised to look into the matter, and I have nothing more to add."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister certain directions in which he could take action to make the department more effective and more efficient than it is. The first point is that certain recommendations have been made by the Royal Commission on Agriculture and the report is before them. We have been told, Sir, that the recommendations are being examined with a view to give effect to them as far as possible. I understand from what I find in the papers that the Government have proposed to appoint a committee which will sit to discuss the various points. I would only suggest that this committee need not necessarily consist of officials and outsiders but may also consist of members of this Council so that it will be rendered less difficult for the Minister to act upon the suggestions of this committee. I would also suggest that before he accepts the recommendations he takes this House into confidence at least by a motion here or by some members being associated with that committee. My second suggestion is this. We find that there are 117 veterinary surgeons who are on the touring establishment and 107 men attached to the hospitals and dispensaries. The total strength therefore of veterinary assistants now doing work is 224. I suggest, Sir, that all the touring assistants may be attached to as many new dispensaries to be opened. This question, I remember, was considered some time ago, and as a member of the advisory committee I suggested that it might be tried at least in one district—in the Kistna district, if I remember right. I do not know what became of it. All I suggest is that the question should be reexamnied, because we can then have as many as 224 hospitals and dispensaries in place of 107 that we now have, and the benefits of their service will reach a greater number of people and cattle than now. A dispensary for a taluk is necessary, and unless we are going to increase especially the amount which we can provide for this head in the near future, with the finances at our disposal it will not be possible to reach the standard that is required. So, I suggest that these touring assistants may be attached to dispensaries and the area now under each dispensary reduced. The assistant may be asked during certain days in the week to tour round the villages and do propaganda work there. After all, in many of the dispensaries they have not as much work as they ought to have. I know of dispensaries where they have not got work for two or three days in a week, and so the absence of these people from their stations for a few days will not be felt by the people resorting to these dispensaries. My proposal may involve some real cost in the way of travelling allowances. But when we spend so much on the establishments of the assistants and other things, this trifling expense may be overlooked in view of the greater effectiveness of the service. Again, Sir, the touring officer should arrange a programme so that it might be possible for him to tour in a village more than once in a year. What is the use of touring assistants going to a place and stopping there for a day and not visiting it again for a year? On the other

22nd March 1929] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

hand, if these touring assistants are attached to dispensaries and dispensaries are started at convenient centres with a range of ten miles, they can keep in touch with the condition of the animals in that radius more easily and more effectively.

"The third suggestion that I wish to make is that we have now got bulletins issued by the Agricultural department setting forth to the people the results of the various experiments that have been done and the improvements that have been effected by such experiments. I would like that such a book is issued with regard to this department so that people may know exactly what it is that the department is doing and in what directions they can expect help. No doubt some such information is found in the agricultural calendars. But if such information is collected and published in a separate volume, and in a language easily understandable, especially in the vernaculars, it will be much more useful than now. I think, Sir, that if all the various bulletins issued by this department or by the allied departments, are collected and brought up to date and printed in a book form written in an easy style in English and in all vernacular languages and distributed to the people, it will go a long way to propagating knowledge about the department among the people. These are the few suggestions that I wanted to make and I request the Government to be pleased to consider them."

The motion was put and lost.

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Sir, I move—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 10,40,400 *for Civil Veterinary Services by Rs.* 100,

to discuss the recommendation of the Agricultural Commission in regard to this department'

"Sir, in this department also, as in the Agricultural department, the field is vast and the labourers few. It has been estimated that at present we have only one veterinary assistant for one lakh of cattle in this country. If you add to this the other domestic animals, you can understand how few are the number of veterinary men we have for service in the country, for controlling the contagious diseases affecting the animals. The Agricultural Commission has recommended that the service should be expanded roughly to the extent of four times the present number. We find that last year twelve new dispensaries were sanctioned by Government, but owing to lack of veterinary graduates, it was found possible only to open seven dispensaries during the current year, and we are told that more dispensaries will be opened in future years, but it all depends on the availability of veterinary graduates. It is regrettable to note that the Commission is silent regarding the pay and prospects of the subordinate officers of this department. They form a low paid and discontented service."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member proposed only to discuss what the Commission have recommended and not what they have not recommended. So the hon. Member will do well to confine himself to the recommendations of the Commission."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Now about veterinary education, which is one of the subjects discussed by the Agricultural Commission. Veterinary education will determine the future of veterinary work and so it is of great importance to an agricultural country like India. They recommend therefore that the course for District Veterinary Surgeons should be five years and that for the assistants it may be cut short to two years. The present three years' course

which we have in our college has been considered to be insufficient. As far back as 1922, the need for the revision of the present course of three years was recognized by principals of the various veterinary colleges in India who met at a conference and they recommended that a four years' course might be instituted and a higher standard of education might be prescribed for those seeking admission to the veterinary college. In Punjab, I understand, they have already instituted a four years' course. Why the report recommends a short course of two years for veterinary assistant surgeons it is difficult to understand. It may be because the need for men is great and they want to get a larger number of men by proposing a shorter course. If more men are wanted, the best thing to do would be to improve the pay and prospects of the profession and thus attract a larger number of people to our Veterinary College. The university must institute a faculty in veterinary science. The veterinary college should also be affiliated to the university and degrees given to graduates."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Council will now adjourn and re-assemble to-morrow at 11 o'clock."

IV

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. Statement showing the area of cultivated wet lands and the amount [a] spent last year for repairs and improvements to the tanks for irrigation purposes in the East Godavari Agency (Vide answer to question No. 668 answered on 26th November 1928.)

2. Correspondence regarding the Simon Boycott procession on the morning [b] of 18th February 1929.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 638 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix III on pages 639-640 infra.